

## **KYRA ELZY'S ATHLETIC RESUME**

**1991-1992:** KY AAU 14 & Under All-Tourney Team

**1992-1993:** All-District, All-Region Coaches, All-Region Tourney Team, KY AAU 16 & Under All-Tourney Team, Blue Star All-Star, MVP Tennessee Camp, Western Kentucky All-Stars, and Eastern Kentucky Individual All-Star

**1993-1994:** All-District, All-Region Tourney Team, 8<sup>th</sup> Region Player of the Year, Sweet 16 All-State Tournament Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-State, Famous Recipe All-Tourney Team, Lady of the South All-Tourney, LIT All-Tourney Team, AAU All-State Tournament Team, Western Kentucky Camper Of The Week, and Blue Star Elite All-Star

**1994-1995:** Pre-Season Co-Top Player In Kentucky, All-State First Team Courier-Journal, All-State First Team Lexington Herald- Leader, Fifth Team Street and Smith, Blue Star Report 16<sup>th</sup> best player overall (Ranked #1 Junior in the Country), AAU All-Tourney Team, All-District, All-Region, 8<sup>th</sup> Region Player of the Year, Famous Recipe All-Tourney Team, Lady of the South All-Tourney Team, and Chicago Sun Times Ranking #8 in the Country

**1995-1996:** Verbally committed to the University of Tennessee. Pre-Season Co-Top Player in the State, Lady of the South All-Tourney Team, All-District, All-Region, 8<sup>th</sup> Region Player of the Year (3 years in a row), Parade Magazine 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American, USA Today Top Player Selection, Kentucky Miss Basketball Runner-Up, All-State First Team Courier-Journal, All-State First Team Herald- Leader, Kentucky All-Star Team, 1 of 26 Players Invited to the USA Junior National Tryouts, and participated in the Nike All-American Game as well as the Boo Williams All-American Game

### **CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS AT OLDHAM COUNTY HIGH-SCHOOL:**

- 4 District Championships
- 2 Regional Titles
- Kentucky State Semi-Final Appearance

- 103-28 (during tenure at OCHS)
- **CAREER LEADER: 143 games, 3020 points, 1703 rebounds, 516 steals, and 449 assist**

## UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AND BEYOND

### 1997:

- ONLY 5<sup>th</sup> Lady Vol In History To Start For Coach Summitt
- NCAA National Champion (Started in National Championship Game)
- Holly Warlick Defensive Player of the Year
- USA Junior Olympic Gold Medal Recipient

### 1998:

- SEC Championship
- NCAA National Champion
- Lady Vol's Unsung Hero Award

### 1999:

- SEC Championship

### 2000:

- SEC Championship
- All- SEC Academic Team
- Lady Vol Academic Achiever of the Year
- USA Today All-Injury Team That Recognized Athletes That Competed While Over Coming Medical Issues
- Member Of A Lady Vol Team That Won An ESPY for Co-Team Of The Decade

### 2001:

- NCAA National Runner-Up (Started in National Championship Game)
- All- SEC Academic Team
- 1<sup>st</sup> Player In Tennessee History To Complete A Master's Degree While Still Playing

## **OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- **1994**, Team Cross-Country State Championship
- **1995**, State Champion In The Open 400 Meter Dash
- **1995**, State Champion Runner-Up In 200 Meter Dash
- **2009** Lions Club Hall of Fame Inductee
- **2013** Named As Tennessee's SEC Legend Of The Year

To Whom It May Concern,

I would highly recommend Kyra Elzy Lander for the Dawahares / KHSAA Hall of Fame. As her former high school coach, I had the pleasure of coaching her and being a part of her life today.

Kyra was a phenomenal player for Oldham County High School. She is the career leader in games played (143), points (3020), rebounds (1703), steals (516) and assist (449). Kyra started as a freshman on a University of Tennessee National Championship Team. Today she is a top assistant for the University of Tennessee following a stint as the associate head coach for the University of Kentucky. Kyra's athletic ability, coaching ability, and high character places her in the elite status with the greats of our state.

Kyra's tremendous athletic tangibles provided her great opportunities but her many intangibles are what set her apart then and now. She dared to dream, dared to be great, chose to make many sacrifices while being a great teammate and friend. Kyra was a great role model on and off the court as a high school player and collegiate player. Today, she is one of the most sought after and respected coaches in the college game.

Every person should have a Kyra Elzy Lander in their life. She is an inspiration and a treasure for our state. I appreciate your time and efforts.

Sincerely,



Mark Evans  
Current Athletic Director of Mercy Academy

June 11, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with pleasure that I write this letter of support for Mrs. Kyra Elzy and her induction into the KHSAA Hall of Fame. I have known Kyra since her high school years when she attended Oldham County High School. This honor and induction in to the Hall of Fame is well deserved.

I got to know Kyra due to her outstanding ability in the sport of women's basketball. I was on the coaching staff at WKU and recruited Kyra throughout her high school career. Even though her college choice led her to the University of Tennessee, our paths would cross again. In 2002, Kyra joined my coaching staff as an Assistant Coach at WKU. Kyra's work ethic, integrity and passion for the game of basketball was seen even on the sidelines as a coach. She worked every day to better the game and the lives of the young ladies she worked with. She is a wonderful, beautiful young lady with so much natural God given ability. She is perfect for the profession of college coaching. She has so much to give to young women with her knowledge of the game and her positive example and guidance.

I take great pleasure and much confidence in supporting the induction of Kyra Elzy into the KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sincerely

Mary Taylor Cowles

July 23, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my distinct honor to recommend Kyra Elzy for the most prestigious award the KHSAA has to offer because Kyra personifies **sustained EXCELLENCE** in all facets, most especially in athletics.

I first met Kyra as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader in 1992 who decided to run high school cross country as well as play middle school basketball that fall. This was fortunate for me since I was Oldham County's Boys and Girls' Cross Country Coach, as well as the Girls' Basketball Varsity Assistant Coach. There had been rumblings that there was an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at OCMS who was better than anyone on our varsity basketball squad for the upcoming season, and there she was in the flesh willing to try a totally new sport to give us much needed depth.

Kyra was so coachable and affable. She has a smile that lights up any room. All of her fellow cross country teammates quickly accepted her and made her feel as if she had been one of them forever. Plus, she was good! Cross Country is so different from basketball, but Kyra had the work ethic, maturity, and self-discipline to rapidly move into the varsity 10. By 1994, she was a vital member of the Oldham County State Cross Country Championship Team.

Also, Kyra further expanded her athletic resume by running track in the spring of 1995; and she won the 400 meter "dash" in her 1<sup>st</sup> state meet final attempt, while finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 200 meters. That 400 meter triumph was so impressive because one can't win a state championship in the 400 meters on natural talent; instead, they must put in the work to not only sprint but add strength, endurance, and most definitely – guts! "No guts, no glory!" Kyra had all of those qualities both as an athlete and as a person.

Now, we finally get to her 1<sup>st</sup> love – basketball! When Kyra's 8<sup>th</sup> grade season concluded, the varsity coach at Oldham County, Dave Weedman, who had built Oldham County into a girls' basketball powerhouse, made the unprecedented decision to move Kyra up to the high school squad - she was that good! Coach Weedman immediately put her on the JV and planned to use her as a varsity sub. She quickly became the 1<sup>st</sup> sub off the bench; unfortunately, the green-eyed monster reared its ugly head. So many players on this team became jealous of Kyra since their playing time or scoring stats were decreasing. Actually, most of the players would have been fine, but their parents created the divide due to their own unrealistic perceptions of their daughters' abilities. Coach Weedman really would have been justified starting Kyra on the varsity by her 2<sup>nd</sup> game, but he kept her as a sub the remainder of the season out of respect for the high school players. That coaching gesture was not acknowledged or appreciated by a majority of the parents and, as a result, by some of the players. Therefore, the byproduct was racism. Since, I had gotten to know Kyra during the cross country season, Coach Weedman designated me as Kyra's "Protector" of sorts, but neither of us dreamed I would be needed to this extent. I felt like I was Kyra's bodyguard and cringed when I could actually hear racial slurs from our own fan base during and after games. Yet, none of this affected Kyra; she always carried herself as a

champion. She knew what was going on around her, but she never let it publically show or impact her performance. Watching her on court in our defensive press was astounding. She immediately improved our teams' performance with her steals, deflections, rebounding, blocks and scoring. She was one of a kind, and again so coachable and unselfish.

The adversity we faced together in Kyra's high school basketball initiation as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader forged an unbreakable friendship that exists to this day. I was fortunate enough to see Kyra's game improve and expand during her 4 years of high school, yet it only took her to the end of her freshman season to be on the national radar of the most prestigious college coaches. Even the great Pat Summitt was recruiting Kentucky's own Kyra Elzy! Kyra became a high school All American and was indeed a dynamic player with an equally dynamic personality, a fantastic student, and possessing impeccable moral character. As the shoe boxes filled up with letters and the phone rang incessantly during her recruitment, Kyra remained down to earth due to the love and care of her mother Sheryl and support of her entire Lagrange, KY, Elzy family. Even the *animal* that is National AAU basketball couldn't change her. Kyra just kept playing the game she loved to the best of her ability helping lead **Team Kentucky** to 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes in the National Tournaments her junior and senior seasons.

All Kyra ever wanted was to play for a champion and be a champion, and that is just what she did when she chose to play for Coach Summitt at the University of Tennessee. Despite so many of her "friends" second-guessing her college decision and wanting her to pick an in-state school where she could be a "star" as soon as she set foot on campus, Kyra made the difficult choice. She wanted to be coached by a perfectionist who demanded nothing but her best in every facet of her life; in other words, she wanted to earn and deserve stardom. During her playing career at UT, which spanned 5 years due to a torn ACL requiring surgery, Kyra was not only an SEC Champion, but a 2-time NATIONAL CHAMPION and a National Runner-up! She started in 2 National Championship games (and won a USA Junior Olympic Gold Medal and an ESPY!). Kyra not only proved she could compete with anyone at any level, she also proved she could overcome medical adversity when she worked her way back to starting status as a senior, even winning a *USA Today* national award for competing while overcoming medical issues.

If Kyra had not sustained her ACL injury (remember that surgery has advanced significantly since Kyra had hers), I believe without a doubt that Kyra would have made her living playing professional basketball. However, the young women in Kentucky and across this nation are fortunate that her life took the turn that it did. Not only did Kyra attain a "basketball degree" at UT, she continued to be an outstanding student while there, not only garnering All-SEC Academic Awards, but she literally was the 1<sup>st</sup> player in UT history to complete a master's degree while still playing! Thus, the groundwork was complete; Kyra Elzy was now ready to enter the college coaching ranks.

Once again that dazzling personality was front and center with a basketball pedigree to rival any coach out there. Kyra started her coaching career with stints at Virginia Tech, Western Kentucky University, and Kansas. At each stop she not only displayed her coaching acumen, but she soon became known as an excellent recruiter. Next, she returned to the SEC and Kentucky when she became an assistant, then quickly, Assistant Head Coach at the University of Kentucky. While at UK, it became irrefutable, Coach Elzy is one of the best recruiters in the nation and arguably "**the best.**" The University of Kentucky could

now challenge Tennessee and other great programs on a consistent basis, not merely fluke wins. The sweetest part of all was Kyra's recruiting of **Louisville, Kentucky's** own Adia Mathies who became a 2-time SEC player of the Year and an All American under Kyra's mentoring. Now that shy, quiet young woman is contributing to the LA Sparks of the WNBA! I really believe that would be impossible if Adia and Kyra's paths didn't cross at UK.

The final chapter of the Kyra Elzy story thus far is the **loyalty** element. Even though Coach Elzy was previously able to resist coaching overtures from UT while at UK; when fate intervened and Coach Summitt's health would remove her from the active coaching ranks, it was important to Kyra that the University of Tennessee sustain what Pat, **her** coach, had built! Thus, she made the extremely difficult decision to leave UK and return to UT. In only one season there, UT was back to winning SEC championships, regular season as well as the tournament, and back in the NCAA Elite 8. During this past off-season, Coach Elzy was again displaying her recruiting prowess by signing the Number 1 recruit in the nation from Oregon, and that is only the beginning...

Kentucky is so very lucky to be able to call Coach Kyra Elzy its own! One cannot imagine the pride I personally felt when Kyra was introduced this year at the 2013 Women's Basketball SEC Tournament at the Gwinnett Center in Georgia as an SEC LEGEND! That pigtailed, smiling little girl is now the most sought after college coach in the game. Finally, as I strolled through the lobby of the WBCA host hotel at this year's NCAAA Final 4 in New Orleans, I suddenly heard an outburst of laughter, so I of course looked to see what was happening and what was so funny. I should have known without looking. Every seat in the lobby was filled with either a college head coach or assistant, and who was there in the middle of them telling a humorous story that had them all laughing uncontrollably, riveted on the edge of their seats --- none other than Kyra Elzy beaming as usual.

This is an easy selection, so enjoy it.

Sincerely,

Coach Kimberly Messer



**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSMAKER: Kyra Elzy**



Kyra Elzy looked at a display honoring her at the Old Oak Framehouse in La Grange. Local businesses hope to erect a plaque in her honor.

BY PAM SPAULDING, THE COURIER-JOURNAL

Monday, August 28, 2000

# La Grange businesses seek to honor basketball standout in her hometown

## Oldham High grad helped Tennessee win championships

By MISSY BAXTER  
Special to The Courier-Journal

University of Tennessee basketball player Kyra Elzy has come a long way since the days when she shot hoops in a parking lot on Main Street in La Grange.

As a member of the Lady Vols, she has helped the team win two NCAA championships, and she's hoping to grab another title this year.

Elzy, a 6-foot-1 Oldham County High School graduate, also was a member of the U.S. team that won the junior women's world championship gold medal in 1997 in Brazil.

Several La Grange businesses hope to honor Elzy, 22, by erecting a plaque in her honor near the

parking lot where she learned to play ball.

"A lot of people in La Grange don't even realize that Kyra's from here, but we wanted to help change that," said Kitty Bierbaum, owner of Old Oak Frametthouse in La Grange.

Bierbaum recently created a large window display at her shop on Main Street to honor Elzy.

The display, which will remain through Sunday, is filled with an array of memorabilia: Elzy's old jersey, newspaper clippings and photos, including ones of her with President Clinton Vice President Al Gore and Michael Jordan.

"We put everything in the window for Oldham County Days last month and we got a great response to it," Bierbaum said. "I think she is a great role model."

Bierbaum's granddaughter, 15-year-old Jessica Dattilo of Henry County, agrees.

"I met her at Lady Vols basketball camp and she was nice right off the bat," Jessica said. "I used to watch them play and I didn't even

know she was from Kentucky, much less La Grange."

Despite the countless miles she's traveled playing basketball, Elzy considers La Grange home. Her mother, Cheryl Elzy, lives there, as do other relatives.

"She's always on the road so much that she doesn't get to come home very often, so we're excited when she does," her mother said.

While in town, Elzy usually visits La Grange Elementary School to eat lunch with her cousin, fourth-grader Eric Dunlap.

"The last time she came to school ... the kids started chanting her name, 'Kyra, Kyra, Kyra,' in the cafeteria," said La Grange Elementary teacher Donna Leel, who has known Elzy since she was a child.

"I think it embarrassed Kyra because she's very modest. The biggest thing with Kyra is that with all the attention, she's never changed. She's always been a team player."

Basketball has always been important to Elzy.

"As a child, she spent every minute she could playing basketball,"

her mother said. "She'd dribble from one side of town to the other, across the railroad tracks. She'd go shoot in a parking lot on Main Street. They had a goal there."

After graduating from Oldham County High School in 1996, she enrolled at the University of Tennessee and joined the Lady Vols. She helped the team win NCAA championships in 1997 and 1998, but she was sidelined by injuries in much of 1998 and in 1999.

Elzy received a bachelor's degree in sports psychology last year and began work on a master's degree in January.

This is her last year of eligibility, so she's hoping to land a spot on a professional team.

"I'm really excited about this season," she said. "We've got a great team."

Elzy said she appreciates the community support she receives. "I'm just glad they're proud of me, and I'm happy to be doing what I always wanted to do."

## Hoops standout may be honored in her hometown

La Grange firms want to honor Oldham High grad Kyra Elzy, who helped Tennessee win two basketball championships. Page B2

# Metro

The Courier-Journal

www.courier-journal.com



# MEET PARADE'S ALL-AMERICA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM



Stephanie White



Chamique Holdsclaw



Dominique Ganty



Amy Herrig

| Name               | School                        | City                   | Ht.   |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| <b>First Team</b>  |                               |                        |       |
| Stephanie White    | Seeger Memorial               | West Lebanon, Ind.     | 5'10" |
| Chamique Holdsclaw | Christ the King               | Middle Village, N.Y.   | 6'2"  |
| Dominique Ganty    | Whitney M. Young              | Chicago, Ill.          | 5'9"  |
| Amy Herrig         | Dubuque Senior                | Dubuque, Iowa          | 6'4"  |
| Takiyah Jackson    | Franklin                      | Seattle, Wash.         | 6'2"  |
| Chanel Wright      | Western                       | Baltimore, Md.         | 6'0"  |
| Monica Maxwell     | East Chicago Central          | East Chicago, Ind.     | 5'9"  |
| Tammy Arnold       | Oregon City                   | Oregon City, Ore.      | 6'3"  |
| Beth Ostendorf     | Pickerington                  | Pickerington, Ohio     | 6'0"  |
| Jamie Redd         | International Studies Academy | San Francisco, Calif.  | 5'9"  |
| <b>Second Team</b> |                               |                        |       |
| Conswella Sparrow  | Central                       | Shelbyville, Tenn.     | 6'2"  |
| Amy Wiersma        | Randolph                      | Randolph, Wis.         | 6'5"  |
| Michelle Hasheider | Okawville                     | Okawville, Ill.        | 5'8"  |
| LySchale Jones     | Our Lady of Good Counsel      | Newark, N.J.           | 5'10" |
| Adrain Williams    | Clovis West                   | Fresno, Calif.         | 6'3"  |
| DeMya Walker       | Rancocas Valley               | Mount Holly, N.J.      | 6'3"  |
| Julie Lake         | Duncanville                   | Duncanville, Tex.      | 5'10" |
| Summer Erb         | Lakewood                      | Lakewood, Ohio         | 6'6"  |
| LaQuan Stallworth  | Silsbee                       | Silsbee, Tex.          | 5'6"  |
| Tennille Adams     | East Chicago Central          | East Chicago, Ind.     | 6'0"  |
| <b>Third Team</b>  |                               |                        |       |
| Amy Duran          | Stone Ridge                   | Bethesda, Md.          | 5'11" |
| Tamika Catchings   | Stevenson                     | Lincolnshire, Ill.     | 6'0"  |
| Anitra Davis       | James Madison                 | Houston, Tex.          | 6'1"  |
| Lynn Pride         | Sam Houston                   | Arlington, Tex.        | 6'1"  |
| Shaka Massey       | Sam Houston                   | Arlington, Tex.        | 6'4"  |
| Lisa Hosac         | Heritage                      | Littleton, Colo.       | 6'2"  |
| Kristina Divjak    | Lake Central                  | St. John, Ind.         | 6'1"  |
| Kyra Elzy          | Oldham County                 | Buckner, Ky.           | 6'1"  |
| Jaime Walz         | Highlands                     | Fort Thomas, Ky.       | 5'9"  |
| Jenny Circle       | Sacred Heart Preparatory      | Atherton, Calif.       | 6'2"  |
| <b>Fourth Team</b> |                               |                        |       |
| Kellie Jolly       | White County                  | Sparta, Tenn.          | 5'9"  |
| Stacy Frese        | Washington                    | Cedar Rapids, Iowa     | 5'8"  |
| Erica Gomez        | St. John Vianney              | Holmdel, N.J.          | 5'9"  |
| Sheila McMillen    | Rochester                     | Rochester, Ind.        | 5'10" |
| Kristen Clement    | Cardinal O'Hara               | Springfield, Pa.       | 5'11" |
| Shea Ralph         | Terry Sanford                 | Fayetteville, N.C.     | 5'10" |
| Hilary Howard      | Scarsdale                     | Scarsdale, N.Y.        | 5'7"  |
| Jessica Gaspar     | Dartmouth                     | North Dartmouth, Mass. | 5'7"  |
| Latonya Washington | Paxton                        | Paxton, Fla.           | 5'11" |
| LaShonda Stephens  | Sequoyah                      | Ganton, Ga.            | 6'3"  |

BY MICHAEL O'SHEA & HASKELL COHEN

# Well-represented senior class

## boosts All-Star hopes

### FIRST TEAM

| Player, school                | Ht.  | Wt. | Cl. | Avg. |
|-------------------------------|------|-----|-----|------|
| Tim Gaskin, Nicholas County   | 6-3  | 170 | Sr. | 20.8 |
| Lance Tompkins, Apollo        | 5-8  | 130 | Sr. | 29.9 |
| Yonda Jackson, Clay County    | 6-2  | 175 | Sr. | 14.5 |
| Wade Carter, M.C. Nader       | 5-8  | 135 | Sr. | 24.1 |
| Steve Pate, Highlands         | 5-8  | 140 | Sr. | 27.6 |
| James Penson, Harra           | 5-6  | 150 | Sr. | 25.8 |
| James Carter, Madison Central | 5-5  | 130 | Sr. | 22.5 |
| Sharon Allen, Southern        | 5-11 | 150 | Sr. | 22.5 |
| Mike Ely, Orlan County        | 6-1  | 145 | Sr. | 23.5 |
| Andy Weidly, Lou Holy Cross   | 5-5  | 130 | Sr. | 18.5 |

### SECOND TEAM

| Player, school                  | Ht.  | Cl. |
|---------------------------------|------|-----|
| Kevin Jeffries, Central Heights | 5-11 | Sr. |
| Kevin Grogan, Bufile East       | 5-6  | Sr. |
| Tommy Daulton, Assumption       | 5-8  | Sr. |
| Steve Egan, Ohio County         | 5-8  | Sr. |
| Kevin Harris, Elizabethton      | 5-7  | Sr. |
| Marvin Ponder, Butler           | 5-10 | Sr. |
| Jimmy Lincoln, Harra            | 5-11 | Sr. |
| Tom Goodrich, Berea             | 5-7  | Sr. |
| Alton Collins, Graves County    | 5-9  | Sr. |
| Michael Hoy, Henderson County   | 5-7  | Sr. |
| Michael High, Scott County      | 5-9  | Jr. |

### THIRD TEAM

| Player, school                     | Ht.  | Cl. |
|------------------------------------|------|-----|
| James Birt, Warren East            | 5-9  | Sr. |
| Danielle Atzinger, Lou Holy Cross  | 5-7  | Jr. |
| Gregory Shaeffer, Mate             | 6-0  | Sr. |
| Shannon Warren, Meade County       | 5-11 | Sr. |
| Amanda Reid, Clay County           | 5-11 | Sr. |
| Ordy McCullough, Rockcastle County | 5-11 | Sr. |
| Neal Cosman, Metrolite County      | 5-8  | Sr. |
| Paul Conner, Perry County          | 5-9  | Sr. |
| Gregg Hume, Benton, Estill County  | 5-3  | Jr. |
| Orsiel Pardo, Garrard County       | 5-1  | Sr. |

\*Tied in the voting.

# THE COURIER-JOURNAL'S 22ND ANNUAL GIRLS' ALL-STATE TEAM

## '96: Walz, Elzy top senior-dominated unit

| FIRST TEAM                        |      |     | SECOND TEAM |                                |      | THIRD TEAM |                                      |      |     |
|-----------------------------------|------|-----|-------------|--------------------------------|------|------------|--------------------------------------|------|-----|
| Player, school                    | Ht.  | Cl. | Avg.        | Player, school                 | Ht.  | Cl.        | Player, school                       | Ht.  | Cl. |
| Jaime Walz, Highlands             | 5-11 | Sr. | 26.9        | Lavonda Johnson, Warren East   | 5-6  | Jr.        | Brandi Baker, Whitesburg             | 5-10 | Sr. |
| Kyra Elzy, Oldham County          | 6-1  | Sr. | 22.3        | Emily Lile, Hart County        | 6-0  | Sr.        | Neco Ashby, Shelby County            | 5-11 | Sr. |
| Christ Hester, Holy Cross         | 5-10 | Sr. | 23.1        | Dana Bodner, Boyle County      | 5-6  | Sr.        | Angie Sandlin, Clay County           | 5-6  | Sr. |
| Jamie Britt, Warren East          | 5-9  | Sr. | 24.6        | Maria Gearhart, West Carter    | 5-6  | Sr.        | Erica Jackson, Henry Clay            | 5-5  | Sr. |
| Allison Bass, Bullitt East        | 6-0  | Sr. | 23.2        | Natalie Powers, Apollo         | 5-9  | Jr.        | Kelly Pendleton, Webster County      | 5-7  | So. |
| Jenny Lincoln, Male               | 6-1  | Sr. | 15.7        | Katie Veith, St. Henry         | 6-3  | Sr.        | Stacey Royalky, West Hopkins         | 6-0  | Sr. |
| Heather Baker, Pulaski County     | 5-7  | Sr. | 28.5        | Karen Flannery, Garrard County | 6-0  | Jr.        | Charlotte Sizemore, Breathitt County | 5-10 | Jr. |
| Rachel Byars, Union County        | 6-0  | Jr. | 21.5        | Carnille Cooper, Scott County  | 6-2  | Jr.        | Keeshia Evans, Butler                | 5-9  | Jr. |
| Cassandra Meadows, Central Hardin | 5-10 | Sr. | 14.5        | Terica Hathaway, Providence    | 5-11 | Jr.        | Beth Vice, Montgomery County         | 5-11 | So. |
| X-Betsy Young, Sacred Heart       | 5-8  | Sr. | 14.8        | Stephanie Hiltchcraft, Mercer  | 5-11 | Sr.        | Jamie Hefflin, Bell                  | 5-9  | Jr. |
| X-Sharae Mansfield, Manual        | 6-2  | Jr. | 20.1        |                                |      |            |                                      |      |     |

### HONORABLE MENTION

| Region                | Player, school  | Ht. | Cl. |
|-----------------------|---|-----|-----|
| <b>First Region</b>   | Samantha Smith and Wendy Donlew, Fulton County; Becky Carter, Graves County; Samantha Smith, Ballard Memorial; Amy Moore, Marshall County   |     |     |
| <b>Second Region</b>  | Jamie Hagedorn, Allison Price and Allison Morris, Union County; Casey Mills, Dawson Springs; Sara Reeder, Henderson County; Mario Thomas, Tigg  |     |     |
| <b>Third Region</b>   | Shannon Rantrow, Apollo; Angel Rickard, McLean County; Vickie Penecost and Stephanie Jarvis, Wellerburg North; Larva Wall, Grayson County   |     |     |
| <b>Fourth Region</b>  | Ronald Shirley, Michelle Pruitt and Veronica Carter, Monroe County; Beth Cunningham and Erin Palanady, Greenwood; Heather Hood, Glasgow; Michelle Porter, Clinton County; Melissa Coker, Russellville   |     |     |
| <b>Fifth Region</b>   | Corssa Meadows and Therrie White C. Hardin, Valerie James and Kristina Covington, Elroy; Elsie Palle, Basestown; Tara Montgomery, Marion County; Kelly McKurtrey, Metcalf County; Jill Goff, Green County   |     |     |
| <b>Sixth Region</b>   | Sherry Newton and Britney Hopkins, Butler; Robin Liers, Karen Powell, Holy Cross; Margaret Richard, Campbell; Rachel Baseler, Holy Cross; Stile Robinson, PPK   |     |     |
| <b>Seventh Region</b> | Baker Turner, Sacred Heart; Michelle Bennett and Tamara Burdette, Male; Angie Lachy and Janyra Saunders, Eastern; Lori Ann Gatzalez, Assumption; Emily Hoperton and Lori Larkin, Manual; Thelma White and Jocelyn Duke, Jeffersonville; Jennifer Nell, Mercer; Stephanie Miller, Fern Creek |     |     |
| <b>Eighth Region</b>  | Anna Ruffa and Rachel Horn, Oldham County; Fabrice White, Scott County; Carle Johnson, Bullitt East; Tabitha Gibson, Bullitt Central; Beth Wood and Shann Wood, Williamson  |     |     |
| <b>Ninth Region</b>   | Heather Kruger, Highlands; Shannon Bezdod, Byron; Brookston, Tracey; Turner, Covington; Jennifer, Angela Ranton, Boone County; Suzie Smith, Dixie Heights; Missy Hopplis, Corner  |     |     |
| <b>Tenth Region</b>   | Whitney Lee, Montgomery County; Sheera Nicholas, Nicholas County; Noelle Whitaker and Dorothy Beyers, Harrison County; Kim Shoemaker, Clark County  |     |     |
| <b>11th Region</b>    | Robin Embury, Madison Central; Kendra Hembert, Henry; Gary Rita Wilson and Kelli Stammer, Lexington; Catherine, Kelly Beth Simmons, Lexington; Christy Marie Bohrer, Paul Dunbar; Nalea Alexander, Lawrence   |     |     |
| <b>12th Region</b>    | Shelley Allyn, Harrodsburg; Ingrid Duncan and Haley Johnson, Monticello; Emily Luttrell, Casey County; Stephanie Jones, Mercer County   |     |     |
| <b>13th Region</b>    | Gindy Koon, Hancock; Melissa Brandon, Oweida; Bessie, Lisa Parkey, Corbin; Tara Bailey, Evans; Michelle Gray, Clay County   |     |     |
| <b>14th Region</b>    | Carolyn Alexander and Valerie Cornett, Hazard; Bethina Yarnover, Fleming-Mason; April Turner, Breathitt County  |     |     |
| <b>15th Region</b>    | Beverly Muller, Bell; Robin Music, Johnson Central; Jessica Johnson, Betsy Layne; Missy Scott, Allen Central  |     |     |
| <b>16th Region</b>    | Ginger Brown, West Carter; Holly Reed, Russell; Kim Marsh, Ashland; Steph Bowling, Fairview; Mira Gearhart, West Carter; Cheryl Griffin, Greenup County   |     |     |

### PAST TOP VOTE-GETTER

1995: Jaime Walz, Highlands; 1994: Denkins, Nicholas County; 1993: B. Ashby, Webster County; 1992: Becky McElroy, Bullitt East; 1991: Ida Bowen, Shelby; 1990: Gwen Doyle, Manual; 1989: Lisa Harrison, Southern; 1988: Penlike, Doss; 1987: Mary Taylor, Warren County; 1986: Taylor; 1985: Brigette Con Whitesburg; 1984: Beitra Croley, Henry; 1983: Clemette Haskins, Warren; 1982: Connie Goins, Western Hills; 1981: Lillie Mason, Omstead; 1980: Lisa Coll Laurel County; 1979: Sharon Garland, Laurel County; 1978: Garrard; 1977: Geri Griggs; McDowell; 1976: Donna Murphy, Newport; 1975: Murphy.

Lor Sharae Mansfield — the top M. Basketball contender for next season — tied for the final slot with 27 votes apiece.

Louisville-area players filled most all-state spots than in previous years with four first-team selections at one each on the second (Mercy Stephanie Hutchcraft) and third teams (Butler's Keshia Evans).

Hart County senior Emily Lile edged Warren East junior Layton Johnson for the top spot on the second team.

Besides Hutchcraft and Lile, three other seniors were named to the second team: Boyle County's Dan Bodner, West Carter's Maria Gearhart and St. Henry's Katie Veith.

Coaches were asked to vote for their 10 best players in the state but not allowed to vote for their own.

### Star Series

The eighth spot on the team went to Union County's Rachel Byars, the state Tournament's Most Valuable Player, with 32 votes.

### Star Series

Central Hardin's Cassandra Meadows was ninth at 30. Sacred Heart senior Betsy Young and Manual junior

### Star Series

Palaski County's Heather Baker and Maies Jenny Lincoln tied for sixth with 40 votes apiece. Those seniors should anchor a formidable lineup for this summer's Kentucky-Indiana All-

### Star Series

Heater, a finalist with Walz and Elzy for Miss Basketball honors, was third with 80 points. Warren East's Jamie Britt finished fourth with 79; Bullitt East's Allison Bass was fifth with 69.

preseason player of the year with Elzy, received 103 votes (from the 119 coaches who voted) to Elzy's 100.

Walz, the top vote-getter on last season's team, is the fourth player to repeat as top vote-getter. The others were Marshall County's Mary Taylor (1986-87), Laurel County's Sharon Garland (1978-79) and Newport's Donna Murphy (1975-76).

Louisville Holy Cross guard Christi

**Fourth Region**  
Ronyeld Shirley, Michelle Pruitt and Veronica Carter, Monroe County; Beth Cunningham and Erin Palladay, Greenwood; Heather Hood, Glasgow; Michelle Porter, Clinton County; Melissa Coker, Russellville.

**Eighth Region**  
Anna Rufra and Rachel Horn, Oldham County; Rebecca White, Scott County; Carrie Johnson, Bullitt East; Holly Roberts and Beth Williamson, Gallatin County; Tabitha Gibson, Bullitt Central; Beth Wood and Susan Wood, Williamstown.

**12th Region**  
Shelley Mays, Harrodsburg; Ingra Du Haley Upchurch, Monticello; Emily Lutz, County; Stefanie Jones, Mercer County.

Hester, a finalist with Walz and Elzy for Miss Basketball honors, was third with 80 points. Warren East's Jamie Britt finished fourth with 75; Bullitt East's Alison Bass was fifth with 59.

Pulaski County's Heather Baker and Male's Jenny Lincoln tied for sixth with 40 votes apiece. Those seniors should anchor a formidable lineup for this summer's Kentucky-Indiana All-

Star Series.

The eighth spot on the tie to Union County's Rachel B. State Tournament's Most

**JAIME WALZ**  
Highlands  
Guard



The most talked-about and highly recruited female in the state to ever lace up a pair of sneakers wound up the state's all-time leading scorer, boys or girls, with 4,948 points. This is the fourth straight year she's made first-team All-State.

"Jaime's a great ballplayer and a great person to work with," Highlands coach Jim Higgins said. "What she's done for girls' basketball in Northern Kentucky and the state of Kentucky is just amazing. She filled the gym every time we played this year."

The Western Kentucky University signee, a consensus first-team All-American, was named Gatorade Circle of Champions National Player of the Year. She's one of three finalists for Miss Basketball.

Walz, who helped Highlands to a 128-39 record and three Ninth Region crowns the past five seasons, led the state in scoring her junior season. This season she was fifth in the state in scoring (26.9 points), and first in free-throw shooting (87.2 percent) and three-pointers made per game (4.2).

"Her mental approach to the game was so much better the last two years," Higgins said. "When she was younger she kind of let things frustrate her. (This season) it was like having an assistant coach on the floor."

One thing Walz's resume lacks is a State Tournament title. The Lady Bluebirds lost to eventual champion M. C. Napier in the title game during her sophomore season, to Apollo in the first round last season and to Central Hardin in the quarterfinals this year.

"We had a great season but just happened to have one of those games at the end," Higgins said. "She was heartbroken, but when she takes time to look back, she'll be proud to see what she accomplished."

**KYRA ELZY**  
Oldham County  
Guard



Elzy also is a consensus All-American and finalist for Miss Basketball after averaging 22.3 points her senior season.

Elzy, who was the C-J's co-No. 1 preseason Player of the Year the past two seasons with Walz, left her mark as one of the state's all-time great players by being named first-team All-State three consecutive years.

"You could coach an entire lifetime and never have anything close to a Kyra Elzy," Oldham County coach Mark Evans said. "There were many, many ball games when she stepped up when she had to and just got the job done."

The soft-spoken Elzy was solid during her senior season when the Lady Colonels went 32-3 but lost to Scott County in the Eighth Region final.

"I know Kyra, and all the other kids, would give all the individual awards back just to get an opportunity to get to the State," Evans said. "It was hard after the loss."

As a junior, the 6-foot-1 Elzy turned in an amazing performance in the Eighth Region title game, collecting 38 points and 35 rebounds in a loss to eventual state champ Scott County. She led the Lady Colonels to Eighth Region titles her freshman and sophomore seasons.

"One of the most special things about Kyra was that while being a real great athlete, she's also a very humble person," Evans said. "She's very concerned about being a good person and being a positive role model. She helped add something to girls' basketball around the state."

Elzy has signed with Tennessee, which won its fourth NCAA title last week.

"The most important thing Kyra needs to leave Oldham County with is confidence in herself, that she can play," Evans said.

**CHRISTI HESTER**  
Holy Cross  
Guard



Hester was spectacularly effective with her no-fear, slash-to-the-basket style. She was almost unstoppable driving the lane, giving her opponents a jump fake and scoring on 6- to 10-foot jumpers.

"She's such a versatile player, and can score in so many different ways," Holy Cross coach Rick Powell said. "I haven't seen anybody with the ability to go to the basket like Christi. She'll jump over people and shoot or use her quickness to go all the way."

Hester, who came off the bench to star for the All "A" Classic state champion Cougars as a sophomore, led Holy Cross to the Sweet Sixteen semifinals as a junior.

The 5-foot-10 Hester led Holy Cross to the All "A" title again this season, averaging 23.1 points, 6.5 assists, 4.2 steals and 4.7 rebounds a game. She scored a school-record 43 points in a Sixth Region final loss to Butler and was the All "A" MVP.

"She gets better all the time," Powell said. "Christi really loves basketball and has the desire to play the game all the time. For her it's fun, not work."

Hester, who didn't play varsity as a freshman, is the school's all-time leader in points (1,789) and assists (492). She also set a single-game record of 13 assists.

Hester is one of three finalists for Miss Basketball and was named All-American by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association.

Powell said he believes Hester will be a big-time player next season at the University of Dayton. She will play for former Miss Basketball Clemette Haskins.

"Clemette sees her playing (small forward)," Powell said. "Not too many can guard her one-on-one. Clemette sees a lot of her in Christi, so that will help a lot."

**JENNY LINCOLN**  
Male  
Guard



The 6-foot-1 Lincoln, who made three trips to the Sweet Sixteen, is one of the best shooters in the state

**HEATHER BAKER**  
Pulaski County  
Guard



Baker was third in the state in scoring at 28.6 points a game, leading the Lady Maroons to impressive Sweet

**RACHEL BYARS**  
Union County  
Forward



Byars has been considered one of the top players in the Class of 1997 since the end of her freshman season.

**CASSANDRA MEADORS**  
Central Hardin  
Forward



Meadors is the first player 6-year-old, highly successful Hardin program to make

...which is 12-0  
Shoemaker Center  
...game home win-  
...because Cincinnati

Cincinnati also ranks in the top 20 nationally in five other categories,

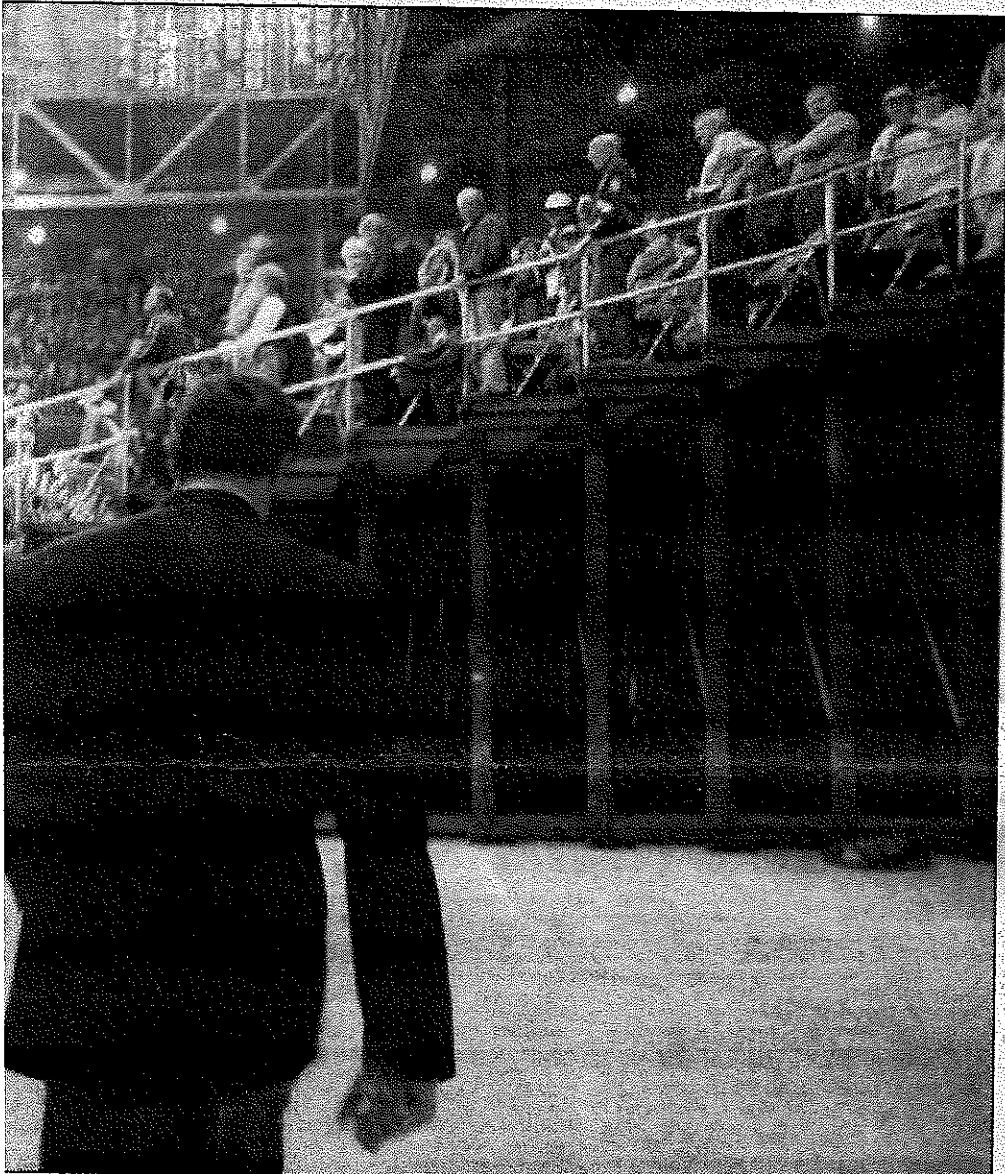
See CARDS  
Page 2, col.-1, this section

...ing to Cincinnati in 1993, the same year that C-USA Player of the Year candidate DeJuan Wheat moved into the Cards' starting lineup.

...nati Enquirer this week." This is like a dream come true.

See LEGREE  
Page 2, col. 3, this section

# CATS: COUNTDOWN TO TIPOFF



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL LUSTER

...ng up, coach Rick Pitlno walked alone from the depths of Rupp Arena toward the court.

# ...g day's journey ... Big Blue night



...an average player goes through in a season.  
Not that there's such a thing as an average player. Mark Pope, Walter McCarty and Jeff Sheppard wear their sneakers to exhaustion and use fewer than 10 pairs a year. Antoine Walker covets that fresh-from-the-box look; he might use 20 pairs.  
It's quite a chore for Keightley and

# Walz, Elzy: close call for Miss Basketball

By JODY DEMLING  
Staff Writer

It has been five years since Jaime Walz and Kyra Elzy haven't played basketball in each other's shadow.

Walz, the state's all-time leading scorer, has carried Fort Thomas Highlands to a pair of Ninth Region titles and an impressive State Tournament run her sophomore season.

Elzy, who burst on the scene as an eighth-grader, led Oldham County to the semifinals of the Sweet Sixteen as a freshman and another Eighth Region title as a sophomore.

The two All-Americans are winding down their high school careers, but there's still one burning question to be answered.

Who will be Miss Basketball?  
The pair has been the co-No. 1 player in The Courier-Journal's pre-season coaches' poll the past two seasons, but there's just one No. 1 jersey to be worn during the annual Kentucky-Indiana All-Star series this summer.

Walz, who is trying to recover from a knee injury, is averaging 26.9 points a game. Elzy averages 22.4 points and 10.4 rebounds.

In an informal survey of 35 coaches from around the state, most believe one of the pair will win the award. Many say the race is just too close to call.

"They're very close," Mercy coach Roy Bowling said. "Sometimes coaches in the southeast part of Kentucky get together and vote in a block. I think, though, it will be Jaime or Kyra, but you never know."

Said Male's Leslie Scully: "Those two kids have accomplished so much and have such name recognition."

Sacred Heart has played both Highlands and Oldham County this season, and coach Donna Moir said the two players have "contrasting styles."

"I think Jaime has the edge because of all the publicity," Moir said. "But Kyra has played as hard as I've ever seen her play this year and is every bit as deserving."

Marshall County coach Howard Beth, who has coached two Miss Basketballs (Carol Parker in 1984 and Mary Taylor in 1987), said this is one of the closest races.  
"I certainly don't think it's a lock

D 4

**BASK**

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- Auburn 65
- Georgia 77
- Mississippi
- South Carolina
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- Iowa 83
- Northwest
- Minnesota
- Bell State
- Bradley 71
- Indiana St
- KUPA 100
- Providence
- St. Xavier
- American
- Colgate 1
- Delaware
- Georgia
- Georgia
- Hampshire
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- Wake
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- Wofford



Walz Elzy

## Walz, Elzy in dead heat

Continued from Page D 1

in other seasons. "Walz and Elzy) have gotten a little more exposure," Warren East coach Blane Embry said. "The media plays a big role in that. People who haven't seen any of them play will be influenced more by the media."

Holy Cross coach Rick Powell and three other coaches said the best outcome might be a tie.

"To me, it would be an upset if anyone else got it," Powell said. "It wouldn't surprise me with a quote, unquote tie. That's the best thing."

**Still searching:** As the season winds down, five teams still are looking for their first victory.

Atherton is struggling at 0-18 after compiling a 14-33 record over the previous two seasons.

Cumberland County was 23-3 four years ago, but the smallest school in the Fourth Region is 0-21 this season.

"We've hit a slump," coach Glen Murphy said. "When you're in a small rural town, you take what you got."

Jackson City is 0-21, but coach Kim Gibson has an inexperienced team.

"We don't have a grade-school

Attention, high school basketball coaches! When you vote for The Courier-Journal's All-State team, please make sure you vote for 10 players and a state-wide Coach of the Year. Please don't vote for a Coach of the Year in your region, and don't vote for your own players. Send the ballots to C-J Sports, P.O. Box 740031, Louisville, Ky. 40201-7431.

feeder program," she said. "We're playing two seventh-graders on the varsity level and just two seniors."

Feds Creek, which is fielding a girls' team for the first time in five years, finished the regular season 0-9. Moore (0-5) is the other team, but

# SPORTS BRIEFS

COMPILED FROM WIRE DISPATCHES

## Agassi's bid ended by Jens Reds' Howard, Berryhill out

Andre Agassi's bid to regain the No. 1 ranking in men's tennis took a nose dive last night when he fell 6-2, 6-4 to Luke Jensen, the ambidextrous doubles specialist ranked 419th in the world. Agassi had a chance to regain the top ranking in the Kroger St. Jude tournament at Memphis, Tenn. Instead, he suffered his first loss in a tournament opener in nearly a year and a half. "I just think it's a tough arena to play in," Agassi said. "The court is quick out there. I was coming off the slow court in San Jose and I certainly wasn't picking up the ball well at all."

Agassi lost in the final to Pete Sampras on Sunday in San Jose, Calif. The result left Sampras with the No. 1 ranking and Agassi No. 3. No. 2 Thomas Muster is taking the week off.

In his first match since regaining the top spot, Sampras beat Richey Reneberg 6-3, 7-5 (7-4). Last night's second-round victory was the biggest singles victory of Jensen's career. He jumped ahead 4-2 in the first set and won control the entire match. In the second set, Agassi broke Jensen pull within 5-4, but Jensen broke back to win the match.

Sampras, meanwhile, fell behind 0-2 in the tiebreaker before pulling out the match with his 19th ace. "I was hitting the spots today," he said. "In San Jose, even though I played well and won, I didn't serve the way I wanted to. Sampras won 85 percent of his first serves, which he said allowed him to use his groundstrokes better. Today he will meet 16th-seeded Greg Rusedski, a 6-7 (4-6), 7-6 (6-4), 7-5 winner over Michael Tebbutt.

Third-seeded Goran Ivanisevic held off Cedric Pioline 6-4, 7 (7-4) in the first round of the \$1 million European Community Championships at Antwerp, Belgium. No. 4 Richard Krajicek also reached the quarterfinals, as did No. 6 Michael Stich, No. 8 Marc Rosset and Adrian Panatta.

## Baseball

Cincinnati Reds outfielder Thomas Howard will miss four weeks with a broken wrist, and catcher Damon Berryhill is expected to miss the entire season after undergoing reconstructive elbow surgery.



Berryhill

The Reds said that Howard broke his right wrist while carrying luggage down the stairs of his home.

Howard was one of four Reds center fielders last season, when he started 35 games and hit .302 with three homers and 26 RBIs. The others — Delon Sanders, Darren Lewis and Jerome Walton — are gone, but Howard was not guaranteed a starting job. Manager Ray Knight is looking more for a true leadoff hitter to play center and bat first.

Berryhill had the so-called "Tommy John" surgery on his throwing elbow. He and Don Slaught were competing for the chance to platoon with primary catcher Eddie

**Taubensee.** Baseball owners abandoned their attempt to get a luxury tax proposal in their new offer. Owners said they would agree to the union's plan for a 2.5 percent payroll tax in 1996, with each player to give back that percentage of his salary to a fund to be used for, among other things, increased revenue sharing and an industry growth fund. Teams said that for 1997 they would accept either a 25 percent luxury tax to be paid by clubs on the amount of payrolls above \$44 million or a 5 percent payroll tax to be paid by players.



# SPORTS

## OCHS' Kyra Elzy named

**BUCKNER** - Post season honors continue to roll in for Oldham County High senior Kyra Elzy and her coach Mark Evans.

The 6-1 Elzy was selected first team all-state by the Courier-Journal for the third year in a row becoming the first OCHS player to earn such honors.

Evans was voted as the Courier-Journal's Coach of the Year by his peers. Both awards are voted on by the state's coaches.

Elzy, a Miss Basketball finalist with Jamie Walz of Ft. Thomas Highlands and Christi Hester of Louisville Holy Cross, finished second in the voting to Walz. Walz tallied 103 votes while Elzy had 100. She and Walz were co-number one players in the pre-season the past two years.

Elzy, who has signed with national champion Tennessee, was a first team all-state selection by the Associated Press along with the coaches association player of the year in the Eighth Region.

She closed her senior year averaging 23 points and 13 rebounds a game, the same averages for her four year career at OCHS.

Elzy has taken the awards in stride.

"They're nice," she said. "I would still trade them all for a state championship for our team."

Elzy spent last weekend in



**MICKEY PATTERSON**

**SPORTS EDITOR**

Norfolk, VA., playing in a high school All-American all-star game and will get to Philadelphia this Saturday for a game that will be televised live on ESPN 2 at noon.

Joining her Walz and Hester on the first team were Jamie Britt of Warren East, Allison Bass of Bullitt East, Jenny Lincoln of Male, Heather Baker of Pulaski County, Rachel Byars of Union County, Cassandra Meadors of Central Hardin, Betsy Young of Sacred Heart and Sharae Mansfield of Manual.

"Kyra is once in a lifetime on and off the court," Evans said. "She has remained a sweet, humble kid through the whole process and just a lot of fun to be around." Byars and Mansfield were the only juniors selected to the team.

Named to the honorable mention team was OCHS senior Anna Rufra and junior Rachel Horn.

The 5-6 Rufra was a starter at

point guard for three years for the Lady Colonels and overcame a serious knee injury in her senior year to average eight points and six assists a game.

Horn, a 5-11 guard/forward who will challenge for top player in the region honors next season, averaged eight points and six rebounds a game this year.

Like his star player, Evans would gladly trade the individual honors for the state title the Lady Colonels were supposed to win this year before being upset in the regional finals with a 32-3 record.

It is Evans' third coach of the year award this season. He has been honored by the region's coaches and was selected the KABC/Reebok coach of the year as well.

"We will always feel like we left some unfinished business out there," Evans said. "These awards are nice, I mean, it's nice that your peers have a certain level of respect for you and acknowledge the hard work that goes into this."

Evans outpointed Blaine Embry of Warren East 27-26. Finishing third was Tim Mudd of Elizabethtown with 16 votes.

He is the second OCHS coach to be selected coach of the year. Dave Weedman shared the honor with Kenny Smith of Manual in 1989.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1996

B

## ed first team all-state

### Boys trio honored

Three local boys were named to the honorable mention team led by seniors Jason Horn of South Oldham and Wes Husband of Oldham County. They were joined by OCHS junior Eric Liedtke.

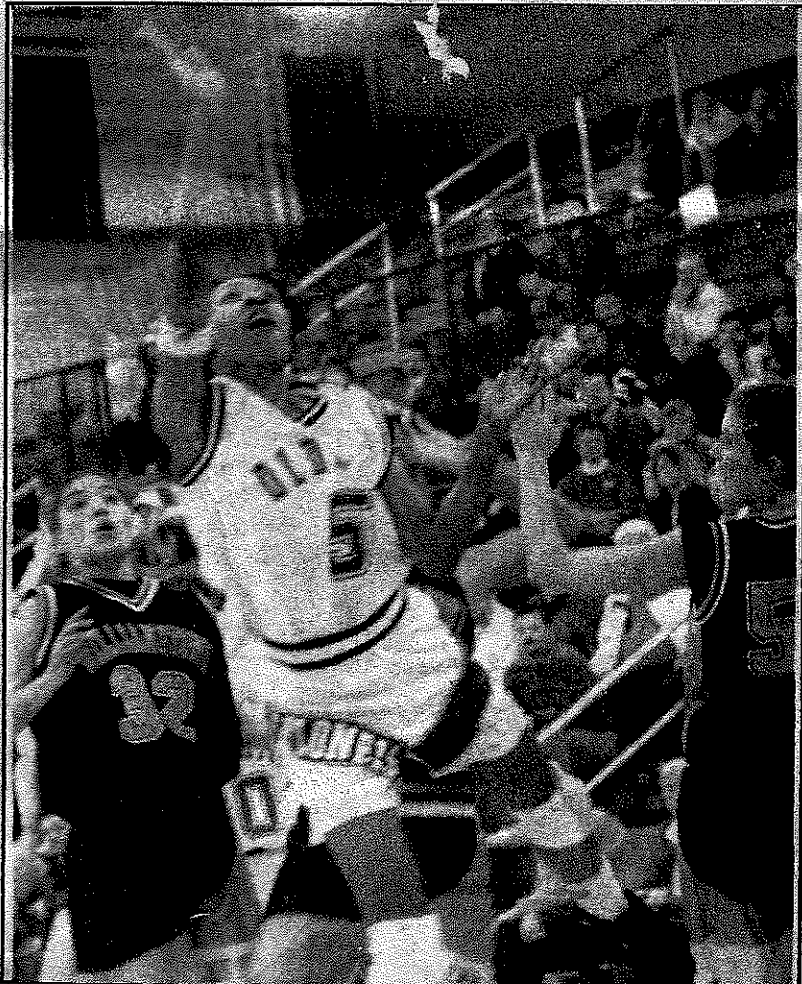
Horn, a 6-2 forward, averaged 10 points and six rebounds a game this season in helping the Dragons to a 16-8 record. He was also selected first team all-region for the second year in a row.

Husband, a 6-4 swingman, averaged 23 points and seven rebounds a game this year while hitting over 50 percent from the floor.

He was an honorable mention pick as a junior as well. He is being recruited by Union, Berea, Brescia and Tusculum College in North Carolina.

Liedtke, a 6-4 swingman, also averaged 23 points and seven rebounds a game this year in helping the Colonels to a 25-5 record and top twenty ranking all season long.

Liedtke ranked ninth in the state in three point shooting this year and is expected to be a Mr. Basketball candidate next season. He is being actively recruited by Tennessee where he has already visited and national runner-up Syracuse along with several other Division I schools.



OCHS senior Kyra Elzy has been named first team all-state for the third year in a row after averaging 23 points and 13 rebounds a game as a senior. (File photo)

# The Oldham Era

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1995

LA GRANGE, KENTUCKY

## Figgs leads Scott by Lady Colonels in region finals

By Mickey Patterson  
Eye Sports Editor

**BUCKNER** — In the end it was Uken Figgs who would not be denied again this year.

The 5-9 senior guard scored 25 points and handed the ball 20 percent of the time for all 32 minutes of the game to lead Scott County to a 79-65 region championship win over the Oldham County Lady Colonels before 2,800 fans Tuesday.

Figgs, who scored 45 points against the Lady Colonels last season in an overtime loss in the regional finals, squelched an OCHS comeback by hitting six straight free throws in the final 30 seconds of the game.

Her game helped to overcome a superhuman effort by OCHS' Kyra Elzy who had 31 points and an amazing 33 rebounds, sparking an OCHS comeback that fell just short.

"You've got to give all the credit to Uken when she stretches," said OCHS coach Mike Evans. "When you've got a player like that you can hold off anybody. And you've got to give credit to all your kids. They had a great team effort all the way through the game."

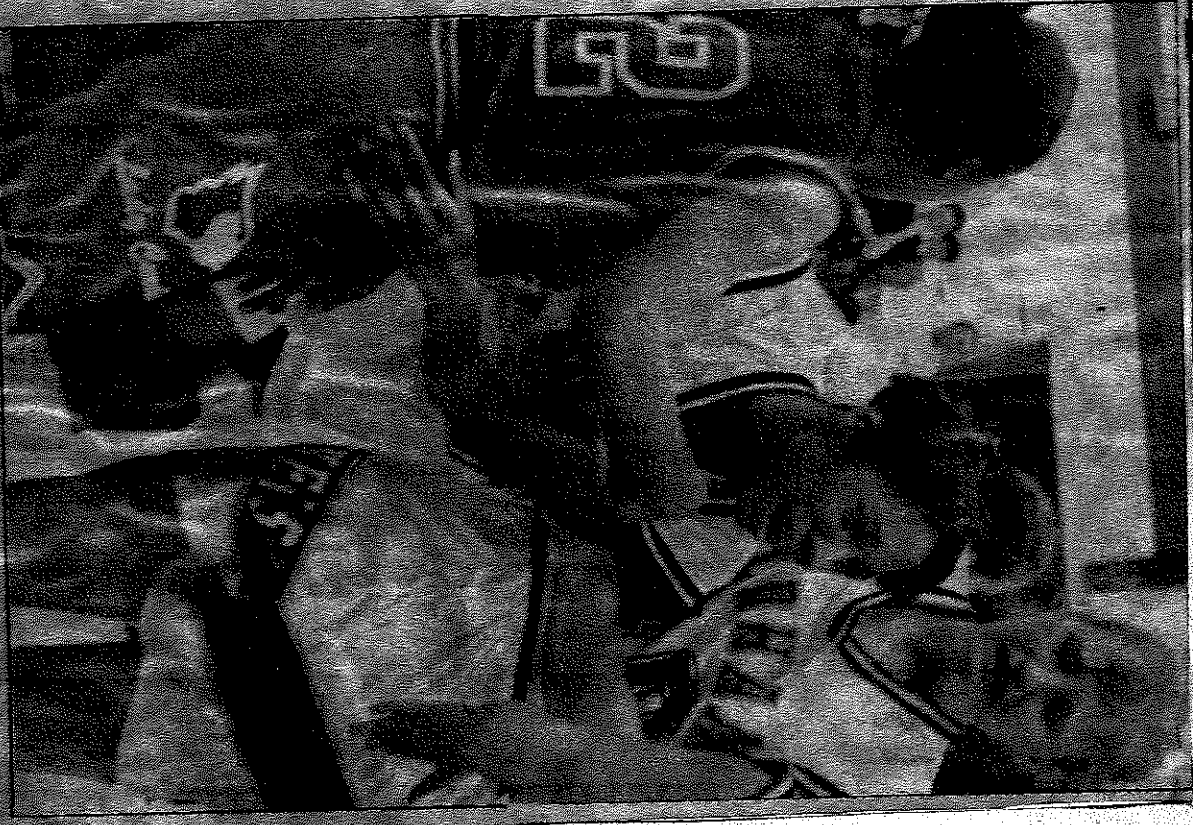
Figgs and Sara Wood having five three-pointers down on OCHS' hands and with the Lady Colonels struggling on the boards, Scott had some offensive rebounds in the first half, the Lady Cardinals broke out of the game fast as they rolled to a 37-24 halftime lead.

"We knew we needed to start the game at a fast pace but we also knew our legs might be limited after the game against Bullitt East the night before," Evans said. "We got off to a good start but early on our legs just weren't there, we gave everything we had but it just wasn't enough tonight."

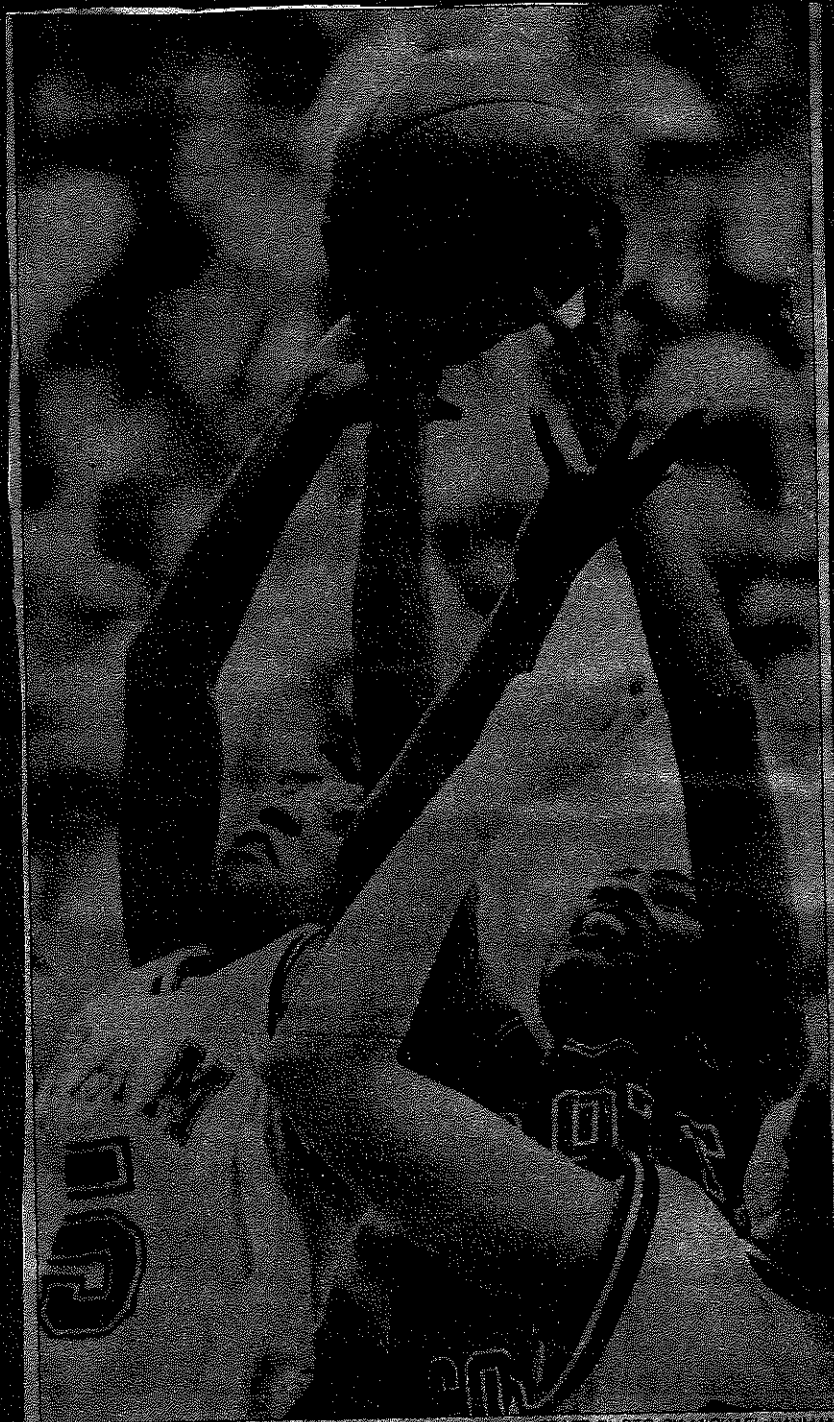
"The key to this halftime was the key to our season. We did not go to the boards well, we did not put a body on people's knees from off the offensive boards and Scott really hurt us there with their set-  
out shots."

The Lady Colonels trailed by a double digit margin through all of the third period until they came storming back behind Elzy and a vicious man-to-man full court press.

With 3:55 left in the game, the Lady Colonels cut the lead to 52-50 when Elzy stole an inbound pass and made a layup. Drawing a



OCHS' Kyra Elzy is consoled by Scott County's Uken Figgs and teammate Liz Robinson after the Lady Colonels fell to Scott in the regional finals Tuesday. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL HAYMAN

Oldham County's Kyra Elzy, left, fought Ukari Figgs for a rebound. Elzy had 35 points and 33 rebounds, but Figgs' Scott County team held on to win 70-65 and earn its first State Tournament berth.

# Elzy's fantasy comes to pass, so Oldham Co. gains Sweet 16

By DOUG TATUM Staff Writer

SHELBYVILLE, Ky. — Oldham County freshman Kyra Elzy had been in this situation a thousand times before. Score tied, time running out and her team one basket away from a trip to the Sweet Sixteen.

She would get the ball, turn and kiss a shot off the board and into the basket. Except that all of those times she had made the shot, she was in teammate Jody Hart's backyard, not a packed Shelby County High School gym.

The change of location didn't bother Elzy last night in the Eighth Region Tournament final. She hit a turnaround 8-footer with two seconds left to give Oldham County a 64-62 upset over Bullitt East, which is No. 11 in The Courier-Journal's Lickenhous Ratings.

The Lady Colonels (21-10) will play No. 19 Assumption (22-7) at 1 p.m. March 25 in the first round of the State Tournament in the Frankfort Civic Center.

"We've practiced that shot since sixth grade so we can go to state," Elzy said. "Once I got the ball, I felt like I was in the Hart's backyard."

The shot was the exclamation point to Elzy's amazing night. The 6-foot center had 38 points, 12 rebounds and two blocked shots. It was her second consecutive double-double in the tournament. She had 21 points and 19 rebounds in Monday's 60-53 victory over No. 12 Shelby County.

"I felt like the last couple of nights she really came out and wanted the ball," Oldham County coach



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL

A gripping Kyra Elzy was matched by teammates after her shot at 0:02 gave Oldham County victory over Bullitt East for a State Tournament berth. She finished with 38 points and 12 rebounds.

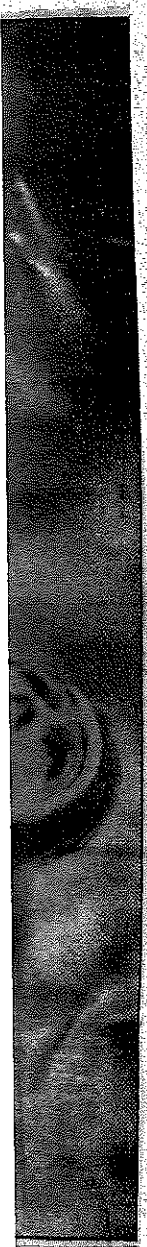
Mark Evans said. "She had to catch the ball in traffic, get it down in traffic and she had to shoot it."

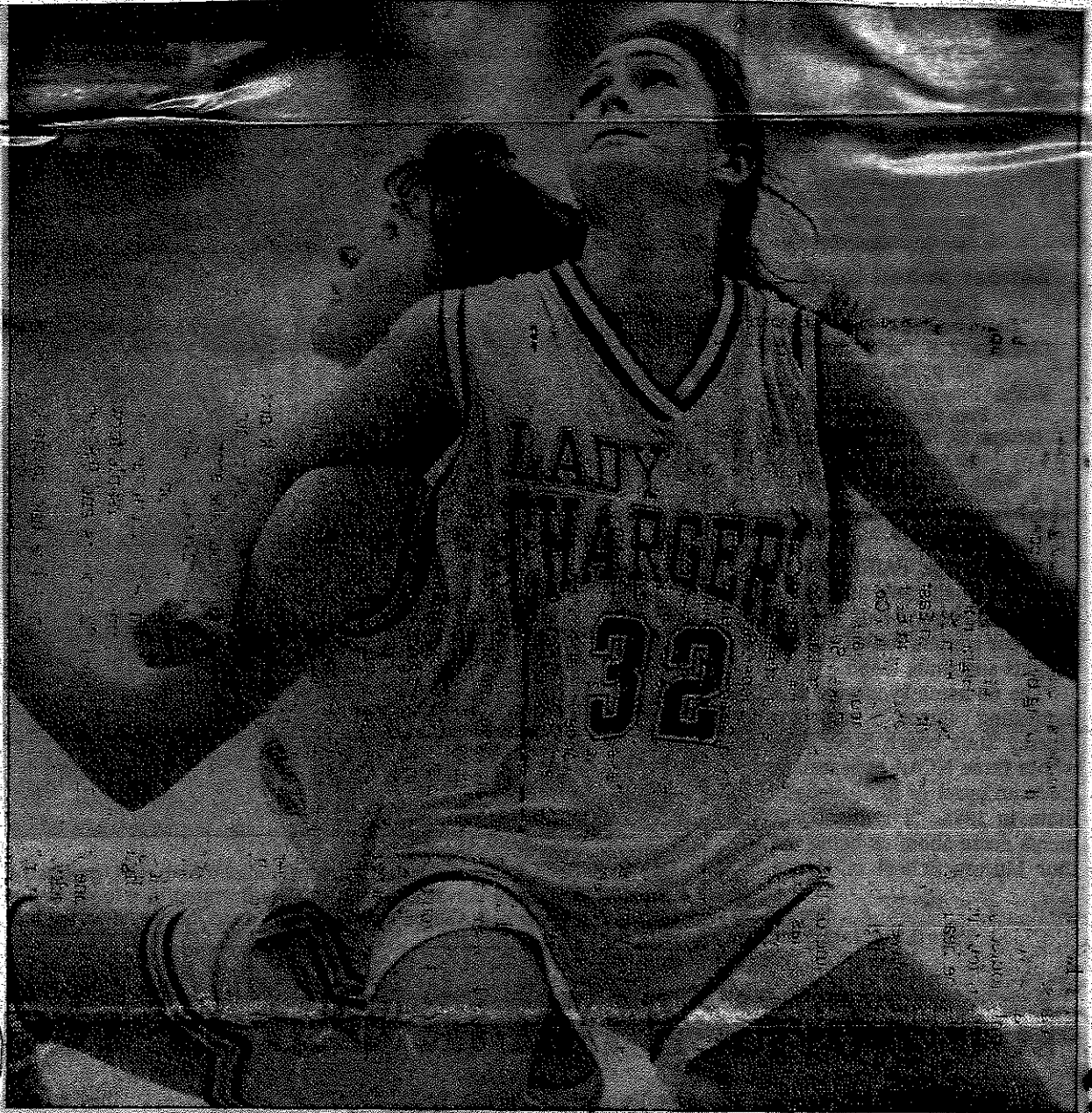
Evans called "your to score," which is supposed to isolate Elzy on one defender. The Lady Chargers ruined that plan by surrounding her with three defenders, but guard Dawn Bradshaw lobbed the ball to her anyway, and she banked it in.

Bullitt East coach Jerry Troutman said his team couldn't have played better defense.

"She had to catch the ball in traffic, get it down in traffic and she had to shoot it," he said. "I guess it wasn't meant to be."

The Lady Chargers also had defended early, holding her scoreless in the first quarter, but she made up for that in the second scoring 18 of her team's 22 points to help County to a 32-31 halftime lead. She scored her points freelaying against a lone defen





Bullitt East's Monica Reed put her back into it while blocking out Jody Hart of Oldham County.

STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL HAYMAN

# OLDHAM

Continued from Page E1

"Elzy had one tremendous ball-game," Troutman said. "She just elevated her game to a much higher level than I've ever seen her play."

Hart knows why her friend is so hard to stop. "She can score left-handed or right-handed," Hart said. "She can jump higher than anybody else, and she can shoot outside or score inside."

Elzy demonstrated all of these tools in scoring the winners' last 10

points.

"She was not going to be denied the basket," Troutman said.

The victory sends the Lady Colonels to the State Tournament in Evans' first season as head coach. He was an assistant at Mercy last year when that team won the state title, and he said that experience taught him that the players have to stay focused on the game at hand.

Oldham County lost to Assumption 75-68 early in the season, but Evans said the teams have changed a lot since then.

"I think we're a much better team

|                       |  |    |    |    |     |
|-----------------------|--|----|----|----|-----|
| BULLITT EAST          | 18   | 15 | 17 | 14 | —62 |
| OLDHAM COUNTY         | 10   | 22 | 14 | 18 | —64 |
| Bullitt East (27-5)   | — Hardeman 10, Strona 6, Franklin 9, Mason 2, Reed 21, Bate 13.  |    |    |    |     |
| Oldham County (21-10) | — Bradshaw 6, Craigmye 2, Elzy 39, Hart 10, Hadden 4, Holcomb 4. |    |    |    |     |
| 3-point goals         | — Hardman 1, Strona 1, Franklin 3.                               |    |    |    |     |

and Assumption is a much better team now," he said. "We're just happy to be there."

Elzy said she and Hart practice free throws as if the state championship is on the line. She said she usually makes them.

And if she misses?

"Lane violation, lane violation."

shman  
aters  
REBOUND

3'

# One-of-a-kind double dose

## Walz, Elzy represent Bluegrass' best ever

By JODY DEMLING  
Staff Writer

Pop a tape into the VCR and fast-forward to March.

Fort Thomas Highlands star Jaime Walz and Oldham County standout Kyra Elzy are in Bowling Green's Diddle Arena, preparing for the championship game of the girls' Sweet Sixteen.

Walz, who has been a hit on the local high school scene since her seventh-grade season, almost single-handedly has led her team through a flawless regular season and a third consecutive Ninth Region title.

The Western Kentucky signee dominates the first three games of the State Tournament as her Lady Bluebirds keep rolling along.

Elzy, who emerged at the Sweet Sixteen her freshman season, was overpowering all season in directing her Lady Colonials to a third Eighth Region title in the past four seasons. The Tennessee signee has posted huge numbers in the State Tournament as Oldham County has plowed through the field.

The two All-Americans have taken different routes, but their paths fittingly cross in the state championship game of their senior season.

The state final is better than advertised as Walz hits 10 three-pointers and pours in 40 points, and Elzy scores 40 and pulls down 25



STAFF PHOTOS BY STEWART BOWMAN, LEFT, AND JAMES H. WALLACE

**The top candidates for Miss Basketball are both All-Americans: Jaime Walz, left, and Kyra Elzy.**

rebounds. And the state champion is...

That will have to wait until March, but it's not too early to see that Walz and Elzy will be remembered as two of the more talented girls in the Bluegrass ever to lace up their sneakers.

"I would love to see that state final," Highland coach Jim Higgins said, "just for the two girls to meet and let the chips fall where they

may."

The dynamic duo is The Courier-Journal's preseason selection for co-No. 1 players in the state for a second consecutive season. Walz

received more first-place votes, but both girls tallied a nearly identical point total after the 135 ballots from coaches around the state were tallied.

"Oh, I'd love to see each of them at their best just one time on the

court against each other." Oldham County coach Mark Evans said. "It would be special."

Walz and Elzy each collected 300 more points than their nearest challenger in the voting. Walz has been named first-team All-America by Street & Smith magazine, and Elzy was named to the second team.

See WALZ Back page, col. 1, this section

### Girls top 20

1. Pos, School
2. Warren East
3. East East
4. Male
5. Central Hardin
6. Fort Thomas Highlands
7. Union County
8. Whitesburg
9. Warren
10. Scott County
11. Boone County
12. Sacred Heart
13. Liberty High School
14. Apollo
15. Greenup
16. Harrison County
17. Boone County
18. Hazard
19. Webster County
20. Butler

### TOP 20

- | Player, school              | Points |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| 1. Kyra Elzy, Oldham C      | 40     |
| 2. Jaime Walz, Highland     | 40     |
| 3. Jamie Britt, Warren East | 35     |
| 4. Alison Beyer, East       | 35     |
| 5. Heather Baker, Somers    | 35     |
| 6. Jennifer Taylor, East    | 35     |
| 7. Jenny Lincoln, Male      | 35     |
| 8. Stacie Masterson, War    | 35     |
| 9. Rachel Byars, Union C    | 35     |
| 10. Natalie Powers, Scott   | 35     |
| 11. Natalie Powers, Apollo  | 35     |
| 12. Katie Vaith, St. Henry  | 35     |
| 13. Katie Vaith, St. Henry  | 35     |
| 14. Layonda Johnson, War    | 35     |
| 15. Layonda Johnson, War    | 35     |
| 16. Karen Flannery, Garrar  | 35     |
| 17. Karen Flannery, Garrar  | 35     |
| 18. Beth Vice, Monticome    | 35     |
| 19. Beth Vice, Monticome    | 35     |
| 20. Keeshia Evans, Butler   | 35     |
| Keeshia Evans, Butler       | 35     |
| Keeshia Evans, Butler       | 35     |

# Oldham County's Elzy to be Lady Vol

By JODY DEMLING  
Special Writer

Oldham County's Kyra Elzy, who was named to two high school girls' basketball All-American teams last season, verbally committed to the University of Tennessee yesterday.

Elzy, a third-team Parade Magazine and fifth-team Street & Smith All-American, has led Oldham County to a pair of Eighth Region titles since joining the varsity as an eighth-grader. She picked the three-time NCAA champion Lady Volunteers over Western Kentucky and Kentucky.

"I remember when she was a freshman and Tennessee was something she had more or less as a goal or a driving force," Oldham County coach Mark Evans said. "When the opportunity to do it came about, she decided to go on with it."

Elzy could not be reached for comment last night.

Elzy, who last season was The Courier-Journal's co-preseason player of the year, was nudged out for top honors on the C-J's All-State team by



Elzy

narrowed her college choices to Kentucky and Western Kentucky, with North Carolina and Georgia still in the picture.

"Miss Basketball would be very special for (Elzy), but it's not her end-all," Evans said. "In her mind she has one goal, and that's to win it all. She has a great future and wants to win the state championship."

The 6-foot-1 Elzy averaged 25.2 points, 15.8 rebounds and 7.2 steals as a junior. She had 35 points and 33 rebounds in a 70-65 loss to Scott

Highlands star Jaime Walz. The voting was 131-130.

Elzy and Walz, who played together in the national AAU tournament this summer, will battle for Miss Basketball honors this season. Walz has

County in the Eighth Region Tournament final.

She led the Lady Colonels to regional championships in her freshman and sophomore seasons.

"From the end of her freshman year it's just been unreal," Evans said. "Without exaggeration, before and during basketball season I was getting 60-100 letters a week. She brought me duffel bags full from what she gets at home."

Elzy averaged 7.5 points and 7.5 rebounds as an eighth-grader, then in her freshman season led Oldham County to the semifinals of the Sweet Sixteen. She scored 56 points in three State Tournament games. She averaged 18.1 points and 11.3 rebounds that season and 22.8 points and 11.8 rebounds as a sophomore.

Elzy will become the third player with local connections to suit up for Pat Summitt's Lady Vols. Lisa Harrison, Kentucky's 1989 Miss Basketball, starred for Tennessee, and Charlestown's Abby Conklin, Indiana's 1992 Miss Basketball, is a junior this year.



# Elzy will rank with the best in state

FRANKFORT — Yet another final few thoughts from the final four of the girls' Sweet 16.

■ In the last three weeks, Oldham County Lady Colonels' fans got treated to a rare experience.

They witnessed the emergence of a once in a lifetime player. A talent that comes along once in a great while.

Like Mary Wagner, Rita Berry, Leslie Texas, Nancy Crutcher — all great players in the proud tradition of the Lady Colonels — but if she stays healthy, Kyra Elzy will go down with the great names of the program.

Through last week's state tourney, she earned a spot on the all-tourney team by averaging 13.6 points a game and 15.6 rebounds. She hit 26 of 34 shots from the floor, averaged two assists and two steals a game. About the only area she was deficient in was free throw shooting where she hit 16 of 34 attempts.

After she destroyed Assumption with 22 points and 22 rebounds, opponents quickly built their game plans around stopping her. Woodford County failed while Warren East succeeded to some degree.

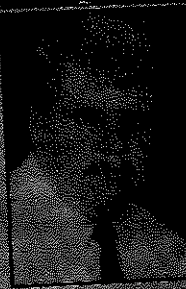
Possibly the best athlete in the Sweet 16, Elzy emerged in the latter part of the season as one of those rare players who make everyone around them better.

With a puritan work ethic and her natural talent, look for her to be rated one of the top 10 players in the state next year and maybe even the top five.

To top it all off — she's a great kid. She never fails to credit her teammates, is polite to a fault and to watch the joy on her face when she plays — it's hard not to fall right along in it beside her.

She's a special talent and one that will be fun to watch over the next three years.

■ Special recognition should go to seniors Wendy Francis and Cindy Hendron. After playing on a powerhouse team as freshmen, they missed out on the Sweet 16 for an unusually long two years before getting back this year. The leadership of these two was paramount in the team's drive back



MICKEY PATTERSON

ERA  
SPORTS  
EDITOR

to the journey. Their acceptance of first year coach Mark Evans and his system went a long way in helping the younger players regain the Lady Colonels' mystique.

■ Although Hendron will be sorely missed at point guard next year, look for junior-to-be Stacy Holcomb to fill that role in a big way next year.

■ Another budding star for the Lady Colonels could be senior-to-be Dawn Bradshaw. Next year should see her moved back to a more natural shooting guard spot. Although her outside shooting was streaking at times this year, she is a three-point shooter who can kill a team when she's hot. Just ask Shelby County. A switch back to guard could free her up a little more next season. She's also developed the ability to drive to the basket which keeps her from being a one-dimensional threat.

■ Elzy is not the only freshman of note in the program. Inside, Jody Hurt became a force at times and has the athletic ability to shine in Evans' system. Her play, along with the twin 6-0 towers of Elizabeth Robinson and Heather Dally, both of whom helped the team in this year's state, will allow Elzy to move out on the floor — a thought that no doubt has eyes around the region reaching for their antacid tablets.

■ Two more guards to watch are senior-to-be Cindy Nay and sophomore-to-be Anna Ruffra. Nay is always around the ball defensively and is a natural in the OCHS press. Ruffra was the point guard of the JV team and her enthusiasm for the game almost guarantees she'll be a player.

■ These players together after a summer of camp with each other and a pre-season and you have a team that can make a serious run at

## All-region teams picked

FRANKFORT — OCHS freshman center Kym Elzy was the only player from Oldham County or South Oldham high picked to the coaches' All-Eighth Region team this season.

Elzy led the Lady Colonels to the region title and the Sweet 16 final four this season. She averaged 18 points and 14 rebounds a game. She is the first freshman from OCHS ever named to the team.

Bert Hensley, coach of Bullitt Central, was honored by his peers as Coach of the Year.

The Player of the Year was Eminence senior guard Chrissy Roberts, who has signed to play at UK.

Others on the team were Kim Cunningham of Shelby County; Ulani Pigg and Tammy Vinegar of Scott County; Andrea Franklin and Tonya Rhoades of Bullitt Central; Kristy Hardman of Bullitt East; Fran Schenman of Henry County; Kristy Horn of Trimble County; Jamie Brock of Carroll County and Megan Skyrack of Owen County.

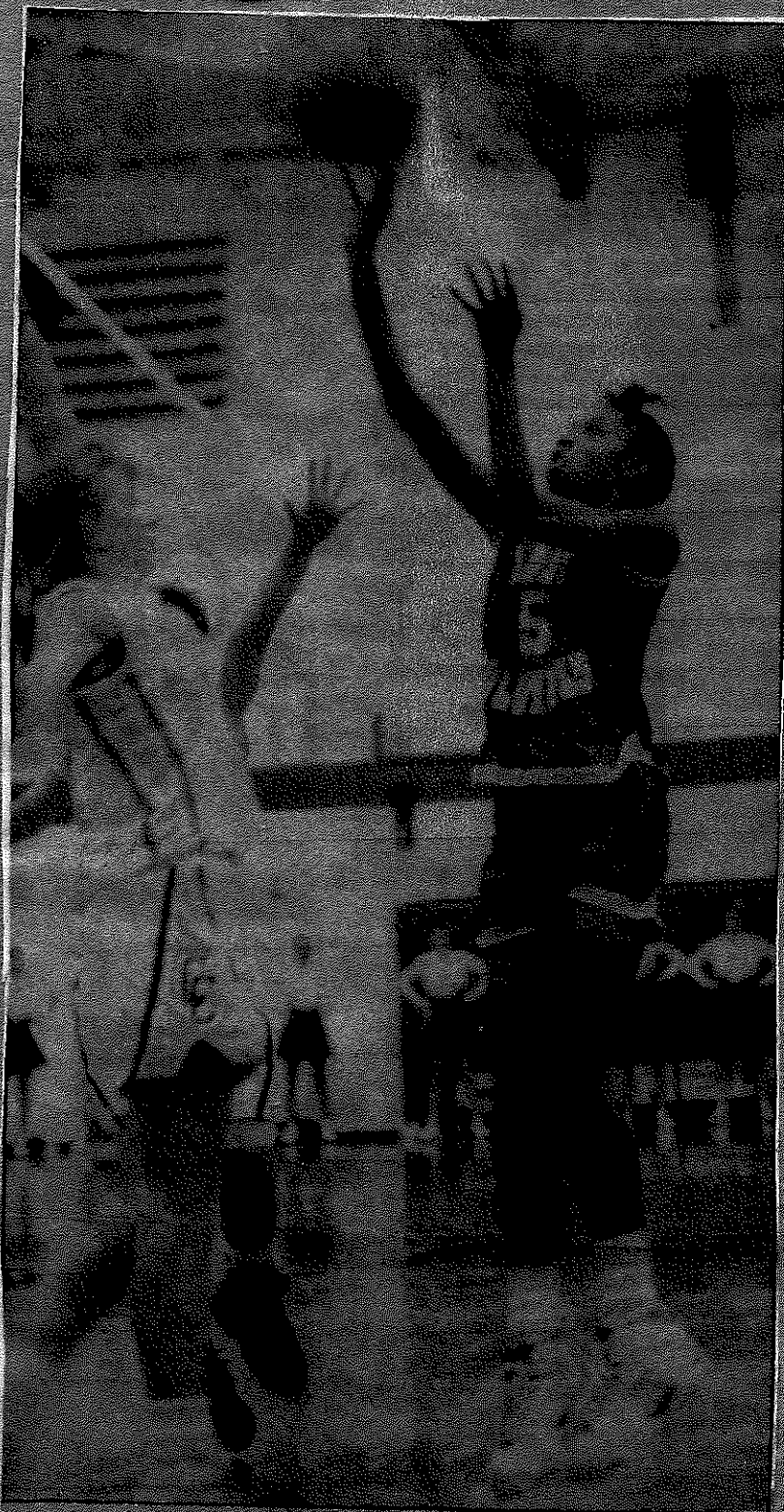
On the boys' team, Matt Simons, Shelby County's 6-11 center and U of L signee, was selected as Player of the Year.

Trimble County's Jim Hurst was chosen the Coach of the Year. Hurst guided the Raiders to the 31st District championship this year and a 20 win season.

Others on the team were John Moffett of Shelby County, Keith Blackburn of Eminence, Kerry Hoffiefield and Mike Sims of Bullitt East, Wayne White and Tony Cunningham of Anderson County; James Patterson of Spencer County; Rick Szozapinski of North Bullitt; Josh Powell of Trimble County; Brian Lutz of Carroll County and Jason Post of Bullitt Central.

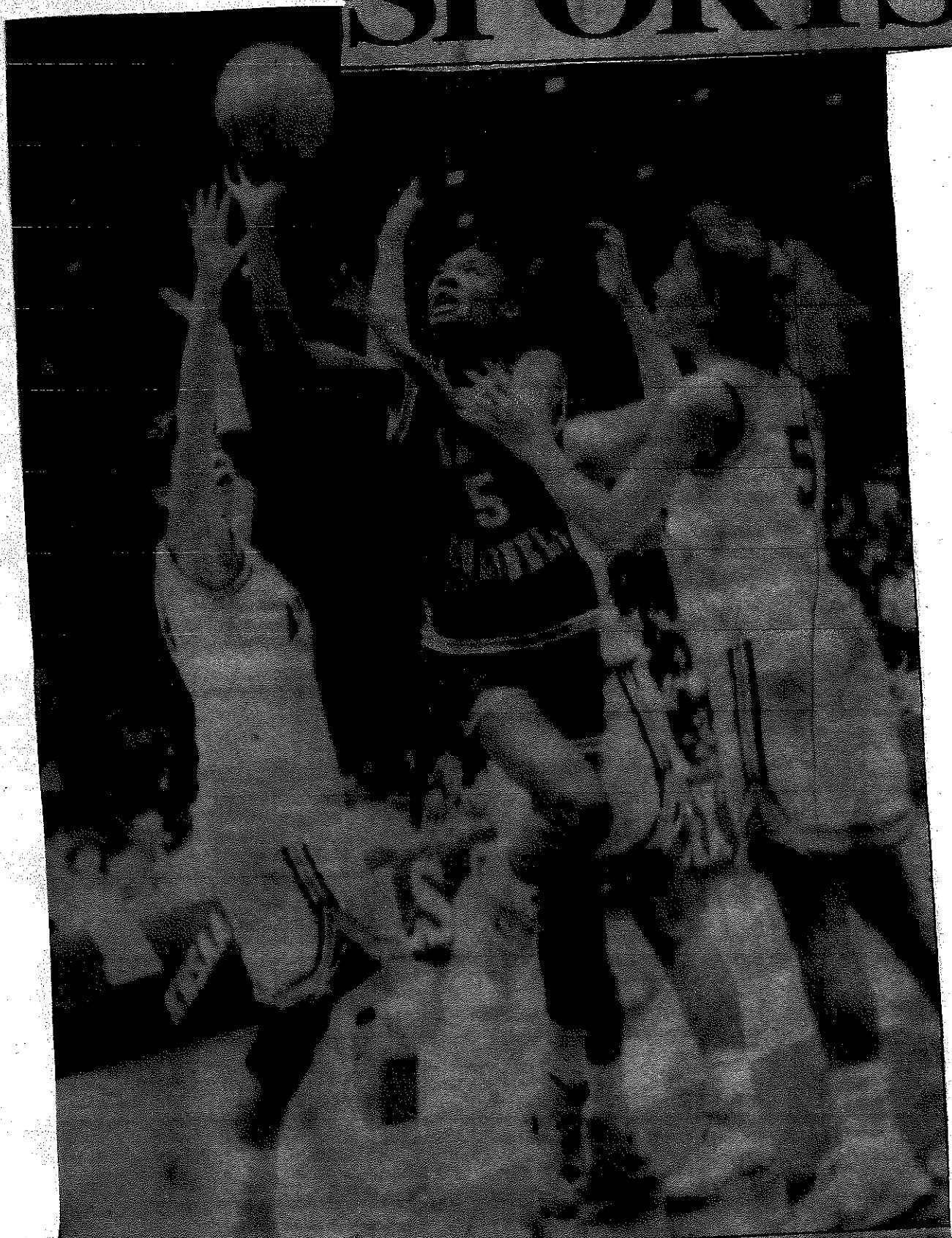
SORS' Bryan Schrader was named to the all-tournament team from the Eighth Region tourney held at Henry County. SORS was eliminated by Bullitt East in the first round.

# Lady Colonels win district



Lady Colonels' center Kyra Elzy goes up with a shot over Carroll County's Amy Booth in the 31st District championship game. Elzy scored 21 points to lead OCHS to an 84-69 win. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)

# SPORTS



Though surrounded by a trio of Assumption defenders OCHS' Kyra Elzy manages to get off her shot. Elzy led the Lady Colonels by Assumption with 22 points and 22 rebounds and was named to the all-tournament team. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)

# Journey showcases freshmen Elzy, Walz

By DOUG HAFUM Staff Writer

This week's Famous Recipe Classic in Northern Kentucky has pitted some of the state's best girls' high school basketball teams and players against each other.

Oldham County vs. Central Kentucky, Muhlenberg County vs. Adams County, Central Hardin's Julie Jefferson, Southern's Sharonda Allen, DeWitt County's Vonda Jackson vs. Warrick, Verona's Sherry Clinkenbeard.

But the tournament's most intriguing matchup might be Fort Thomas Highlands and freshman Jamie Walz against DeWitt County and freshman Kyra Elzy. It's a game between two up-and-coming stars and two young but extremely talented players.

"I don't know if I've ever seen a better freshman anywhere," Meade County coach Bob Pollock said after Walz buried his team for 33 points, six assists, seven rebounds and five steals in only three quarters during Highlands' 83-48 shellacking of the previously unbeaten Lacy Waves.

"If you told someone that she was a first-year freshman in college, people would believe you more than if you told them she was a first-year high school player."

Pollock also has seen Oldham's Elzy play several times and was impressed.

"She's a better offensive player," he said. "She really makes it tough to go around."

Highlands coach Jim Higgins and Oldham County coach Mark Evans said their freshmen understand the game.



PHOTOS BY DURELL WALLER ABOVE AND MARK LONG

Oldham County center Kyra Elzy, above, and Fort Thomas Highlands guard Jamie Walz, both freshman starters, will face off tonight in the Famous Recipe Classic at Highlands.



## THE FIGURES ON THE FRESHMEN

| Jamie Walz, Fort Thomas Highlands |      |           |      |         |      |         |      |       |     |      |     |       |
|-----------------------------------|------|-----------|------|---------|------|---------|------|-------|-----|------|-----|-------|
| Season                            | G    | FG-A      | Pct. | 3FG-A   | Pct. | FT-A    | Pct. | PTS   | REB | AST  | BLK | STL   |
| 1997-98                           | 28   | 109-248   | 43.5 | 22-76   | 29.3 | 20-31   | 64.5 | 209   | 28  | 18   | 18  | 37    |
| 1998-99                           | 29   | 151-355   | 42.6 | 33-110  | 30.0 | 154-214 | 71.9 | 452   | 152 | 159  | 70  | 243   |
| Avg.                              |      |           |      |         |      |         |      |       |     |      |     |       |
|                                   | 28.5 | 130-296.5 | 43.1 | 27.5-93 | 29.6 | 154-214 | 71.9 | 230.5 | 50  | 58.5 | 45  | 307.5 |
| Kyra Elzy, Oldham County          |      |           |      |         |      |         |      |       |     |      |     |       |
| Season                            | G    | FG-A      | Pct. | 3FG-A   | Pct. | FT-A    | Pct. | PTS   | REB | AST  | BLK | STL   |
| 1997-98                           | 27   | 82-174    | 47.1 | 0-0     | 0.0  | 90-95   | 94.7 | 99    | 30  | 23   | 8   | 73    |
| 1998-99                           | 42   | 81-129    | 62.7 | 0-0     | 0.0  | 30-34   | 88.2 | 145   | 82  | 49   | 15  | 174   |

See page 10 for more photos.



# Oldham freshman plays like senior as Woodford falls

By Brent Welch

Head leader still writer  
**FRANKFORT** — Freshman Kyra Ely played like anything but the freshman she is, scoring 19 points and grabbing 15 rebounds to help put Oldham County past Woodford County 60-46 in the Girls State Basketball Tournament last night.

Oldham County moves on to play Warren East, a 59-47 winner over Russell County last night in today's 1:30 a.m. semifinal in Farmham Dugston Civic Center.

With Woodford County closing the gap to five after trailing by 14 at the half, Ely, a 6-foot center, scored 10 points during a 14-3 run to start the fourth quarter to help put the Lady Yellowjackets away.

Ely, whose team improved to 22-10, used a quick first step to find her way to the basket and create havoc for Woodford County, which trailed its season 26-6.

In the first step, and she kept you," said Woodford County senior Shera Rabin, who drew the assignment to guard Ely. "I tried to get my teammates to help me, but they were unwilling to move."

Ely said her fourth-quarter surge was simple.

"I was just trying to take it to No. 12 (Rabin)," she said. "I knew

| WOODFORD CO. (46) |     | OLDHAM CO. (60) |     |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Name              | pts | Name            | pts |
| Beckton           | 9   | Wright          | 12  |
| Ell               | 2   | Wright          | 12  |
| Wagner            | 22  | Wright          | 12  |
| Wright            | 32  | Wright          | 12  |
| Hicks             | 20  | Wright          | 12  |
| Sidles            | 11  | Wright          | 12  |
| Waters            | 8   | Wright          | 12  |
| Team              | 160 | Wright          | 12  |

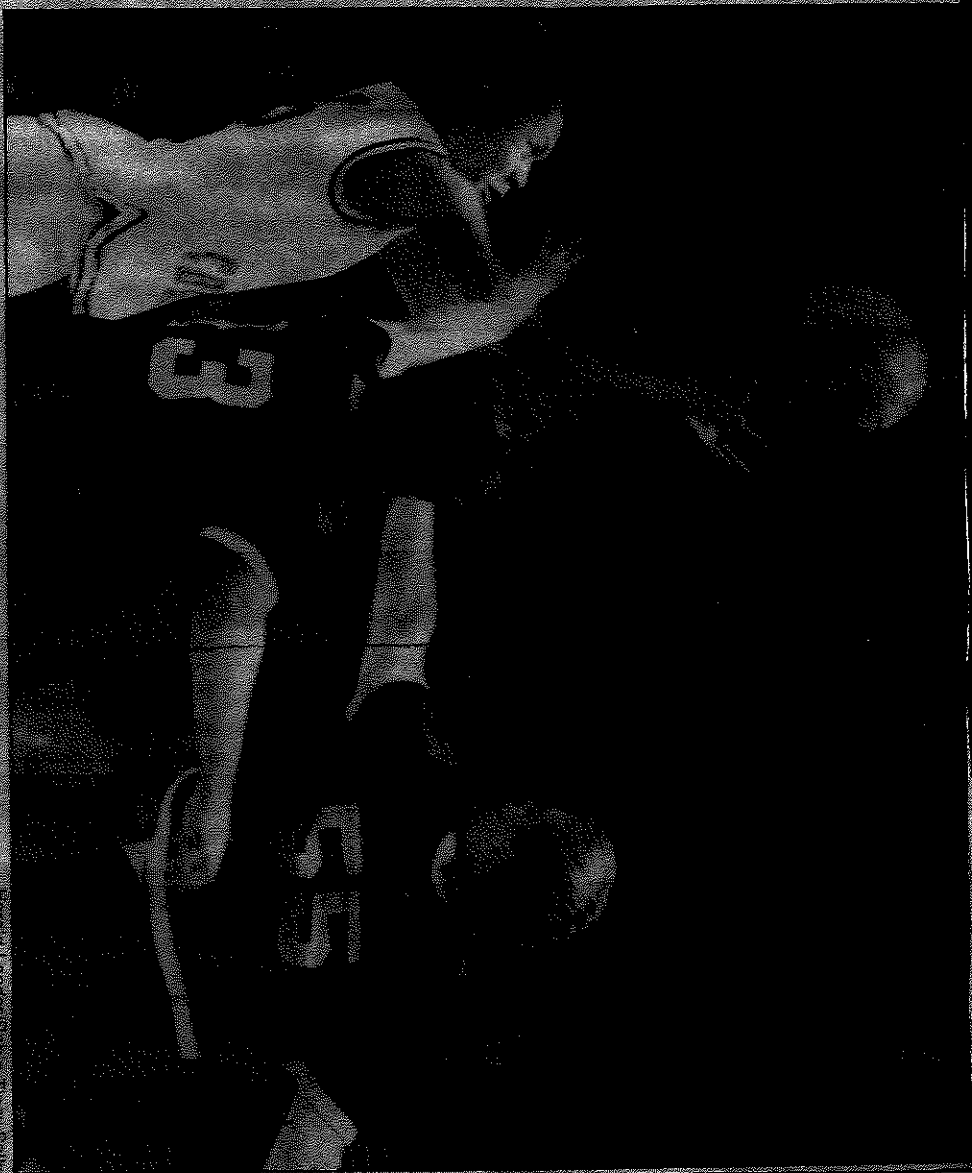
she was in foul trouble and that she was a big key to their team."

Oldham County Coach Mark Evans said his team adjusted well to Woodford County's defense to start the fourth quarter.

"They went to a man-to-man and were overplaying a lot. We made a simple adjustment and called for an isolation, moving Kyra to the top of the key," Evans said.

Oldham County shot 45.7 percent from the field, Woodford County only 31.7.

The Lady Yellowjackets were plagued by foul trouble throughout



Herald-Leader/Robert Toney Galt

Oldham County freshman Kyra Ely got off a (13) and Tifanee Fields (55). Ely led Oldham over Woodford County's Verma Wilson from County with 19 points and 15 rebounds.

the contest. Forty-five seconds into the game, Woodford County junior Amy Redmon picked up two fouls. She fouled out with nearly five minutes left in regulation. Senior Tanny Washer was also in foul trouble throughout.

Oldham County shot 29 free throws, making 15, to only 3-for-8 free-throw shooting for Woodford County.

"The difference was at the free-throw line," Woodford assistant coach Jay Lucas said. "But take no credit away from Oldham County. They played great."

Oldham County jumped all over Woodford County early, turning off nine straight points and leading 14-2 midway through the first quarter. The Lady Colonels led 29-15 at intermission.

"We tried to recover most of the first three quarters," Lucas said.

They nearly recovered behind a ferocious full-court press, outscoring Oldham County 17-8 in the third quarter before Ely's hot hand put them away.

Oldham County junior Dawn Bradshaw had 15 points and senior Cindy Henderson added 14.

Raglin led Woodford County with 16, ending her career with 1,000 points. Senior Verma Wilson had 13.

# Elzy's prayer leads OCHS to regional title

By Mickey Patterson  
Eva sports editor

SHELBYVILLE — Kim Elzy's prayers went straight to the top in a very short time — like a second.

And with them the prayers of a thousand others as her ladyway eight-foot bank shot from the right baseline kissed off the glass and into the net giving the Oldham County High Lady Colonels a 64-62 upset over Bullitt East in the Eighth Region finals Tuesday.

"I was praying the minute it left my hand, go in, go in," Elzy said. "I knew I could catch the ball when it came to me but I didn't know if I could score or not, that's why I was praying so hard."

Elzy's shot ended one of the most dramatic contests between the two old rivals and sends the Lady Colonels to the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1989.

"This is just awesome, unbelievable," said senior point guard Ched Hendon. "After last year being so tough we really pulled together this year with coach

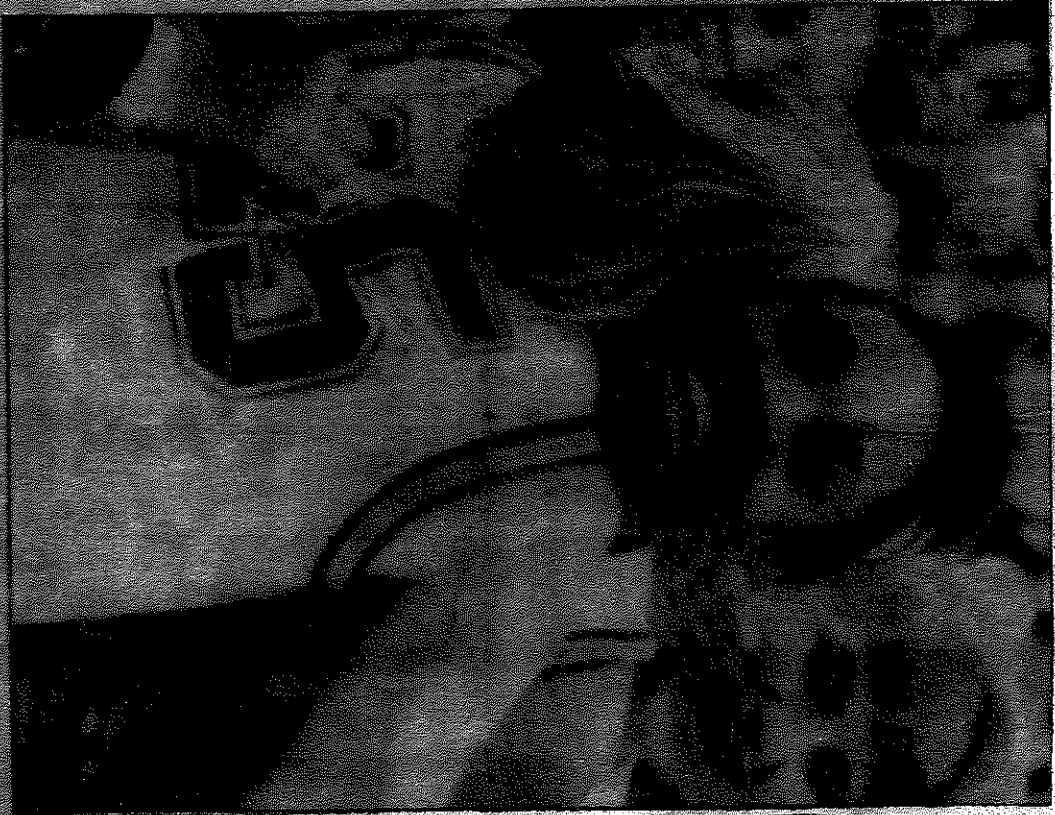
Evans being new and everything, but I don't think any of us expected this."

The win gives the lady Colonels a 20-10 record on the year and sends Evans to the state inquiry in his first year as head coach. Evans is no stranger to the role having served as an assistant on last year's state champion Meigs. But he had to do quite a sales job with this year's club at the start of the year.

"We believed from the very beginning we could do this as a state," he said. "At summer camp we met with the girls and asked them their goals. They felt like they had a pretty good shot at the district and maybe the region finals. I told them no way was that good enough. They had a great base in the game from playing under Dave Weerman and the quickness and athletic ability to go all the way. I told them my goal for them was to win the region, nothing less."

The kids accepted me and accepted my system. We have built toward this since summer. We have

Please see ELZY'S, A7



OCHS freshman Kyrá Elzy got a victory hug after her last second shot gave the Lady Colonels a 64-62 win over Bullitt East and the Eighth Region championship Tuesday in Shelbyville. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)



# Elzy's

Continued from front

had great fan support and some adversity through the year but now maybe everyone will realize with all their support the things this group of girls can accomplish. All the credit for this goes to the girls. They have worked so hard and done everything we asked of them. This belongs to them completely."

Though just a freshman, Elzy's shot and her performance in the game will go down as one of the great ones in the storied history of Lady Colonels' basketball. She finished the game with 38 points, 12 rebounds, three blocked shots and five steals.

"Elzy had one tremendous game," said Bullitt East coach Jerry Troutman. "She stepped her game up to a level we haven't seen before. She was not going to be denied, that's simply the way it was."

Elzy's shot went through the

hoop with one second on the clock and the Lady Colonels and their fans began their celebration a bit early as the officials cleared the floor to allow Bullitt East one last desperation pass that failed.

It capped a game that saw the lead change hands 16 times and a tie score five times.

With 2:14 left Bullitt East held a 59-58 lead after Elzy hit a layup off an inbounds pass. On the next trip down she stole Kristy Hardiman's entry pass and drove the length of the court for to hit a six footer from the right corner to give the Lady Colonels a 60-59 lead.

With 1:55 left Allison Bass missed a shot in the lane and OCHS' Dawn Bradshaw grabbed the rebound. OCHS called time with 1:43 left. With 1:31 left Elzy hit an eight footer in the lane to put OCHS up 62-59.

East got a break with 1:04 left when Hardiman leaned into

Hardiman to draw a foul while shooting a three-pointer from the left corner. Hardiman, however, missed her first two shots forcing East to call a timeout. She hit the third to close the gap to 62-60.

The Lady Colonels gave East another chance when Bradshaw's inbounds pass to Henderson went out of bounds after she threw the ball right and Henderson broke to the left.

East called time with 47 seconds left and with 31 seconds left Monica Reed found a seam in the OCHS zone and hit a jumper from the foul line to tie the score at 62 all.

Without no timeouts left, OCHS got the ball down the floor but East had Elzy surrounded with three players. With seven seconds left, Bradshaw tolled a high lob to Elzy at the line. Elzy simply outjumped everyone for the ball, caught it, spun to her right with a quick dribble and hit the winning shot.

"We fell like all along we were

going to get a shot to win, we wanted to get the ball down to eight seconds and get some penetration for a good shot, we have practiced that all year," Evans said. "That was not exactly the play we wanted. East had Kym surrounded and we had to throw a job up between two and three people. It was one of those special moments that great players can create."

With the win the Lady Colonels will now take on Seventh Region champion Assumption next Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Sweet 16 in Frankfurt. OCHS athletic director Talbot Allen has announced advance ticket sales will start Monday in the OCHS office.

OCHS — 10 22 14 18 64 — Dawn Bradshaw 6, Jennifer Craggyle 2, Kyla Elzy 38, Joey Hart 10, Cindy Henderson 4, Stacy Holcomb 4, 64.  
BULLITT EAST — 10 15 17 14 62 — Kristy Hardiman 10, Michelle Sims 5, Becky Franklin 9, Lisa Meacham 2, Monica Pogue 21, Allison Bass 10, 52.

# Oldham County's fast start too much for Woodford County

By JODY DEMLING  
Special Writer

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Oldham County jumped out to a comfortable lead, thwarted a Woodford County rally and drew off to a 68-46 victory last night in the quarter-final round of the girls' high school State Tournament at the Civic Center.

It took Oldham County (23-10) a full quarter to get rolling in their first-round victory over Assumption, but last night the Lady Colonels were hot from the start. They led 9-0 and 14-2 before Woodford County (26-6) knew what hit them.

Senior point guard Cindy Hendron led the way with a three-pointer to open the game and two jumpers later in the run. Oldham County hit 7 of 15 shots in the quarter to Woodford County's 4 of 15.

"The run at the beginning of the game really hurt us," Woodford County assistant coach Jay Lucas said.

Oldham County held a 29-15 halftime lead, but behind seniors Shana Raglin and Tammy Washer the Lady Yellowjackets made their run. Washer and Raglin scored three buckets apiece as Woodford pulled within 37-32 after three quarters.

Then it was Kyra-time as Oldham County freshman center Kyra Elzy took over in the fourth quarter. Elzy hit a driving layup, fed Stacey Holcomb for a bucket, scored four straight baskets and dished off to Dawn Bradshaw for another layup.

Elzy scored 11 of her 19 points in the fourth quarter. She finished with 15 rebounds and was 8 of 12 from the field.

"Woodford County went man-to-man on us, and it was affecting our offensive sets," Oldham coach Mark Evans said. "We made a simple adjustment. We moved Kyra to the top of the key."

"I was just trying to take the ball at No. 12 (Shana Raglin)," Elzy said. "The

## GIRLS' SWEET 16

### Yesterday's results

Nicholas County 52, Calloway County 49  
Clay County 47, Central Hardin 46  
Oldham County 60, Woodford County 46  
Warren County 59, Russell County 47

### Today's games

Nicholas County (35-2) vs. Clay County (33-3), 10 a.m.  
Oldham County (23-10) vs. Warren East (29-5), 11:30 a.m.  
Championship, 6 p.m.

More coverage, Page 5

three-two (zone) was smooshing us, and I wasn't getting my drive or my steps down. I just wanted to play offense better than I did in the first half."

"She's really tall and has long legs, so on her first step she was getting past me," said Raglin who finished with 16 points, which gave her 1,000 for her career.

Oldham County won the victory by sinking 6 of 9 free throws in the final 0-51.

"The last two or three weeks the girls have stepped up and hit the free throws when they counted," Evans said.

Free throws were one of the differences in the game and had the Woodford coaching staff upset. Oldham made 15 of 29 to just 3 of 8 for the Lady Yellowjackets. The fouls were 27-12 in favor of Oldham.

"The free throws were the difference in the game," Lucas said. "The only comment we have on the foul situation is that we didn't get in the bonus during the second half and that they shot 29 free throws to our eight."

Bradshaw scored 15 points and Hendron 14 for the Lady Colonels, who advance to the semifinals today at 11:30 a.m. against

# HOW COACHES RATE TEAMS AND PLAYERS BY REGION

## First Region

Teams — 1. Marshall County; 2. Graves County; 3. Fulton County; 4. Murray; 5. Caloway County; 6. Mayfield; 7. Reidland.  
 Players — 1. Brigate Howard, Marshall County; 2. Amy Buchanan, Graves County; 3. Wendy Denton, Fulton County; 4. Shana McDougal, Marshall County; 5. Samantha Smith, Fulton County; 6. Bonnie Payne, Murray; 7. Farrah Beach, Caloway County; 8. Tunisha Woods, Paducah High School; 9. Micki Haynes, Graves County; 10. Heather Michell, Garrise County.

## Second Region

Teams — 1. Henderson County; 2. Union County; 3. Webster County; 4. West Hopkins; 5. Madisonville; 6. South Hopkins; 7. Caldwell County.  
 Players — 1. Rachel Byars, Union County; 2. Stacey Royalty, West Hopkins; 3. Kelly Paridson, Webster County; 4. Adrienne Kimlin, Henderson County; 5. Clara Black, Webster County; 6. Robbie Rickard, Madisonville; 7. Melissa Bush, Trigg County; 8. Amanda Bowers, West Hopkins.

## Third Region

Teams — 1. Muhlenberg North; 2. Owensboro Catholic; 3. Muhlenberg South; 4. Apollo; 5. Harrocks County; 6. McLean County; 7. Davess County; 8. Ohio County; 9. Breckinridge County; 10. Owensboro.  
 Players — 1. Carrie Biddeman, Owensboro Catholic; 2. Theodor Brown, Breckinridge County; 3.

## EIGHTH REGION

Teams — 1. Kyle, Elizabethtown; 2. Ukan Fidge, Scott County; 3. Alison Bass, Bullitt East; 4. Jami Brock, Carroll County; 5. Nicole Weed, Carroll County; 6. Brandie Bowen, Grant County; 7. Anna Flura, Oldham County; 8. Esh Williams, Gallatin County; 9. Neco Ashby, Shelby County; 10. Tabitha Ganson, Bullitt Central.

## Ninth Region

Teams — 1. Covington Holy Cross; 2. Highlands; 3. Notre Dame; 4. Scott; 5. St. Henry; 6. Corner; 7. Bishop Brossart.  
 Players — 1. Jaime Yaz, Highlands; 2. Michele Bell, Cov. Holy Cross; 3. Lindsay Vontlerman, Notre Dame; 4. Kristin Huppert, Notre Dame; 5. Kala Yelth, St. Henry; 6. Kelly Reutman, Villa Madonna; 7. Amy Burk, Scott; 8. Lisa Utlage, Cov. Holy Cross.

## 10th Region

Teams — 1. Harrison County; 2. Montgomery County; 3. Clark County; 4. Mason County; 5. Backen County; 6. Nicholas County; 7. Henderson County; 8. Boone County; 9. Boone County; 10. Boone County.  
 Players — 1. Ben Vico, Montgomery County; 2. Jan Vaughn, Clark County; 3. Noelle Whitaker, Harrison County; 4. Dorothy Boyers, Harrison County; 5. Allison McKinney, Backen County; 6. Brock Deaks, Henderson County; 7. Tara George, Nicholas County; 8. Trish Swink, Mason County; 9. Amy Hall, Montgomery County; 10. Brandi Bromigan, Bart County.

Stephanie Jarvis, Muhlenberg North; 4. Angela Rickard, McLean County; 5. Natalie Fawcett, Apollo; 6. Larra Wall, Grayson County; 7. Sally Anderson, Ohio County; 8. Jamie Sogsdill, Owensboro Catholic; 9. Brandy Robertson, Harrocks County; 10. Vicki Penicosa, Muhlenberg North.

## Fourth Region

Teams — 1. Warren East; 2. Greenwood; 3. Edmonson County; 4. Russellville; 5. Monroa County; 6. Logan County; 7. Barren County; 8. Warren Central.  
 Players — 1. Jamie Britt, Warren East; 2. Stephanie Demitson, Edmonson County; 3. Sonya Thompson, Russellville; 4. Beth Cunningham, Greenwood; 5. Lavonda Johnson, Warren East; 6. Laura Crocker, Greenwood; 7. Angela Wood, Barren County; 8. Kelly McClurey, Metairie County; 9. Tanishia Jackson, Warren Central; 10. Sarah Higgins, Logan County.

## Fifth Region

Teams — 1. Nelson County; 2. Central Hardin; 3. Labue County; 4. Marion County; 5. Meade County; 6. Adair County; 7. Taylor County; 8. Elizabethtown; 9. Bardston; 10. (tie) North Hardin and Hart County.  
 Players — 1. Farrah Sullivan, Taylor County; 2. Melissa Corner, Nelson County; 3. Kristy Murphy, Marion County; Brooke Sullivan, Labue County; 5. Angie Johnson, Nelson County; 6. Lori Padgett, Meade County; 7. Cassandra Meadows, Central Hardin; 8. Teicia Taylor, Adair County; 9. Allison Woodson, Labue County; 10. Minnie Goldstein, Bethelton.

## 11th Region

Teams — 1. Latayette; 2. Bryan Station; 3. Lexington Catholic; 4. Henry Clay; 5. Woodford County; 6. Paul Dundar; 7. Madison Central.  
 Players — 1. Kaiten Sebail, Latayette; 2. Natassa Alexander, Latayette; 3. Marci Webb, Bryan Station; 4. Erica Jackson, Henry Clay; 5. Ardisa Hill, Woodford County; 6. Allison Tate, Paul Dundar; 7. Robyn Embry, Madison Central.

## 12th Region

Teams — 1. Boyle County; 2. South Laurel; 3. North Laurel; 4. Pulaski County; 5. Garrard County; 6. Somerset; 7. Wayne County.  
 Players — 1. Karen Flannery, Garrard County; 2. Ashley Sanders, Boyle County; 3. Kelly Caucilli, Somerset; 4. Dana Bodner, Boyle County; 5. Heather Baker, Pulaski County; 6. Erin Kelly, South Laurel; 7. Joy Beard, Lincoln County; 8. Shelly Mays, Harrodsburg.

## 13th Region

Teams — 1. Jackson County; 2. Evans; 3. Knox County; 4. Clay County; 5. Caswood; 6. Wilkesburg; 7. Whitley County.  
 Players — 1. Shea Unstard, Jackson County; 2. Janet Jones, Knox Central; 3. Shannon Browning, Evans; 4. Angela Sandlin, Clay County; 5. Patricia Krom, Caswood; 6. Carla Kelsey, Wilkesburg; 7. Leslie Miller, Clay County.

## Sixth Region

Teams — 1. Butler; 2. Holy Cross; 3. Southern; 4. Pleasure Ridge Park; 5. Valley; 6. Fardale; 7. Presentation; 8. Central; 9. Western; 10. Holy Rosary.  
 Players — 1. Maria Porter, Butler; 2. January Taylor, Holy Cross; 3. (tie) Danielle Atzinger and Christ Hester, Holy Cross; 4. Dornonique Mitchell, PHS; 5. Adrienne Everett, Southern; 5. Shonna Johnson, Valley; 6. Britney Highland, Butler; 7. Nichole Gimes, Southern; 8. Quinzie Weathers, Western; 9. Gina Greenwell, Southern; 10. Kristy Dunny, Holy Rosary.

## Seventh Region

Teams — 1. Manual; 2. Male; 3. Sacred Heart; 4. Meroy; 5. Fern Creek; 6. Ballard; 7. Eastern; 8. Assumption; 9. Jeffersontown; 10. Wingoener.  
 Players — 1. Sharae Mansfield, Manual; 2. Jenny Larson, Male; 3. Lauren Mecker, Sacred Heart; 4. Michelle Barnett, Male; 5. Latoscha McKinry, Fern Creek; 6. Kelly Brewer, Manual; 7. Stephanie Hutchcraft, Meroy; 8. Kim Kauffman, Waggener; 9. Bridget Breddlove, Meroy; 10. Angela Lackey, Eastern.

## Eighth Region

Teams — 1. Oldham County; 2. Bullitt East; 3. Scott County; 4. Shelby County; 5. Gallatin County; 6. Carroll County; 7. South Oldham; 8. Grant County; 9. Bullitt Central; 10. Henry County.

## 14th Region

Teams — 1. Whitesburg; 2. M.C. Napier; 3. Brearlin County; 4. Leslie County; 5. Knott County Central; 6. Jenkins; 7. Hazard.  
 Players — 1. Terrie Blair, Whitesburg; 2. Kathy Thompson, Knott County Central; 3. Charlotte Sizemore, Brearlin County; 4. Karen Godesy, M.C. Napier; 5. Karan Sampson Jenkins; 6. Josie Herold, Brearlin County; 7. Valerie Wynn, Whitesburg; 8. Carolyn Alexander, Hazard.

## 15th Region

Teams — 1. Barry; 2. Johnson Central; 3. Bays Lane; 4. Parisville; 5. Alan Central; 6. Pike County Central; 7. Sheldon Clark.  
 Players — 1. Jamie Runyon, Barry; 2. Amanda Pison, Parisville; 3. Jamie Rehn, Barry; 4. Mervy Clark, Bays Lane; 5. Shannon Brown, Johnson Central; 6. Jamie Ratliff, Prestonsburg.

## 16th Region

Teams — 1. Ashland; 2. West Carter; 3. Lawrence County; 4. Russell; 5. Boyd County; 6. Greenup County; 7. Fairview.  
 Players — 1. Maria Gearhart, West Carter; 2. Melinda Ratliff, Lawrence County; 3. Stacey Connor, Ashland; 4. Holly Reed, Russell; 5. Chen Griffin, Greenup County; 6. Kim Marsh, Ashland; 7. Hope Craig, Boyd County.

## KENTUCKY GIRLS' TOP TEAMS

# Oldham Co., Bullitt East top Eighth — and state

By JODY DEMLING  
Special Writer

Winning the Eighth Region girls' high school basketball title might be tougher than claiming the state crown this season.

Three of the top 10 teams in The Courier-Journal's preseason poll of coaches compete in the region, including top-ranked Oldham County and No. 2 Bullitt East. Scott County is ranked ninth.

"The Eighth Region has always been tough," Bullitt East coach Jerry Troutman said. "I think there is a lot of parity in all of girls' basketball and in our region especially. It's tough night-in and night-out."

Oldham County, led by fifth-team Street & Smith preseason All-American junior Kyra Elzy, was a lock in the top spot by picking up almost two-thirds of the 188 first-place votes.

"I feel good about it," Oldham County coach Mark Evans said. "As a younger group these kids survived and got to the state tournament the past two years. But the only way I'll feel like we're successful is if we win it all."

Male coach Leslie Scully, who won the Sweet Sixteen with Mercy in 1990 and made it to the semifinals last year at Male, thinks the stellar play by junior point guard Anna Rufra is the key to Oldham County's season.

"Rufra improved so much from one year to the next," Scully said. "She has jumped into the next level of play, and that really helps them. Kyra can't do it by herself."

Following Oldham County in the preseason poll are Bullitt East,

**"Our inside game doesn't have a lot of experience, but all the big guns lost everybody. It's going to be an interesting year."**

Male coach Leslie Scully

**"The Eighth Region has always been tough. I think there is a lot of parity in all of girls' basketball, and in our region especially. It's tough night-in and night-out."**

Bullitt East coach Jerry Troutman

Male, Warren East and Marshall County. All four return key players, but only Male and Marshall County are defending regional champions.

Rounding out the top 10 are Manual, Whitesburg, Butler, Scott County and Fort Thomas Highlands, last year's runner-up.

## OLDHAM COUNTY

Evans returns four starters off last year's 26-10 squad that was defeated by Henderson County in the quarterfinals of the Sweet Sixteen.

The Lady Colonels won the state AAU High School Division championship and placed eighth in a Blue Chip tournament in Philadelphia over the summer.

"They jumped up two or three levels," Evans said. "Last year's season was not successful. The kids walked away realizing they didn't achieve what they needed to. But this summer was wonderful."

Elzy, a First-Team Courier-Journal All-State selection, will pace the Lady Colonels after averaging 22.4 points, 11.8 rebounds, 5.0 steals and 4.2 assists as a sophomore.

She will get a big lift from Rufra, who averaged 6.9 points, 5.1 assists and 3.0 steals last year.

Evans expects juniors Elizabeth Robinson, Jody Hart and Joni Bortorff and sophomore Rachel Horn to contribute.

## BULLITT EAST

The Lady Chargers seem poised to record another winning season under Troutman, who has compiled a 246-64 mark in nine seasons.

Bullitt East returns four starters off a 28-3 team that lost to Oldham County in the semifinals of the regional tournament.

"We didn't accomplish our goals last year, and that's given us a desire to work harder this year," Troutman said.

The Lady Chargers are led by second-team Courier-Journal All-State selection Alison Bass. The 6-1 junior poured in 19.7 points and 7.4 rebound, while shooting 57 percent from the field last season.

"She played some AAU ball, and her confidence level has gone way up in her game, inside and outside," Troutman said.

Two other seniors that will bolster the lineup — Lisa Mason and Becky Franklin — also have started since their sophomore seasons.

The 6-1 Mason (6.2 ppg) provides the Lady Chargers with strength inside. Franklin (3.8 ppg, 3.3 rpg) already holds the school record for career steals and is on the verge of breaking the assist mark.

The Lady Chargers led the state in defense last year when they gave up just 37.1 points a game.

## MALE

No doubt the Lady Bulldogs lost a great deal when Stacy Shadburne and Kendria Braxton graduated, but those two inside players alone didn't carry Male to the semifinals of the Sweet Sixteen last year.

"We lost Stacy and Kendria, which were two big cogs in the wheel," Scully said. "But we have our guards back. Our inside game doesn't have a lot of experience, but all the big guns lost everybody. It's going to be an interesting year."

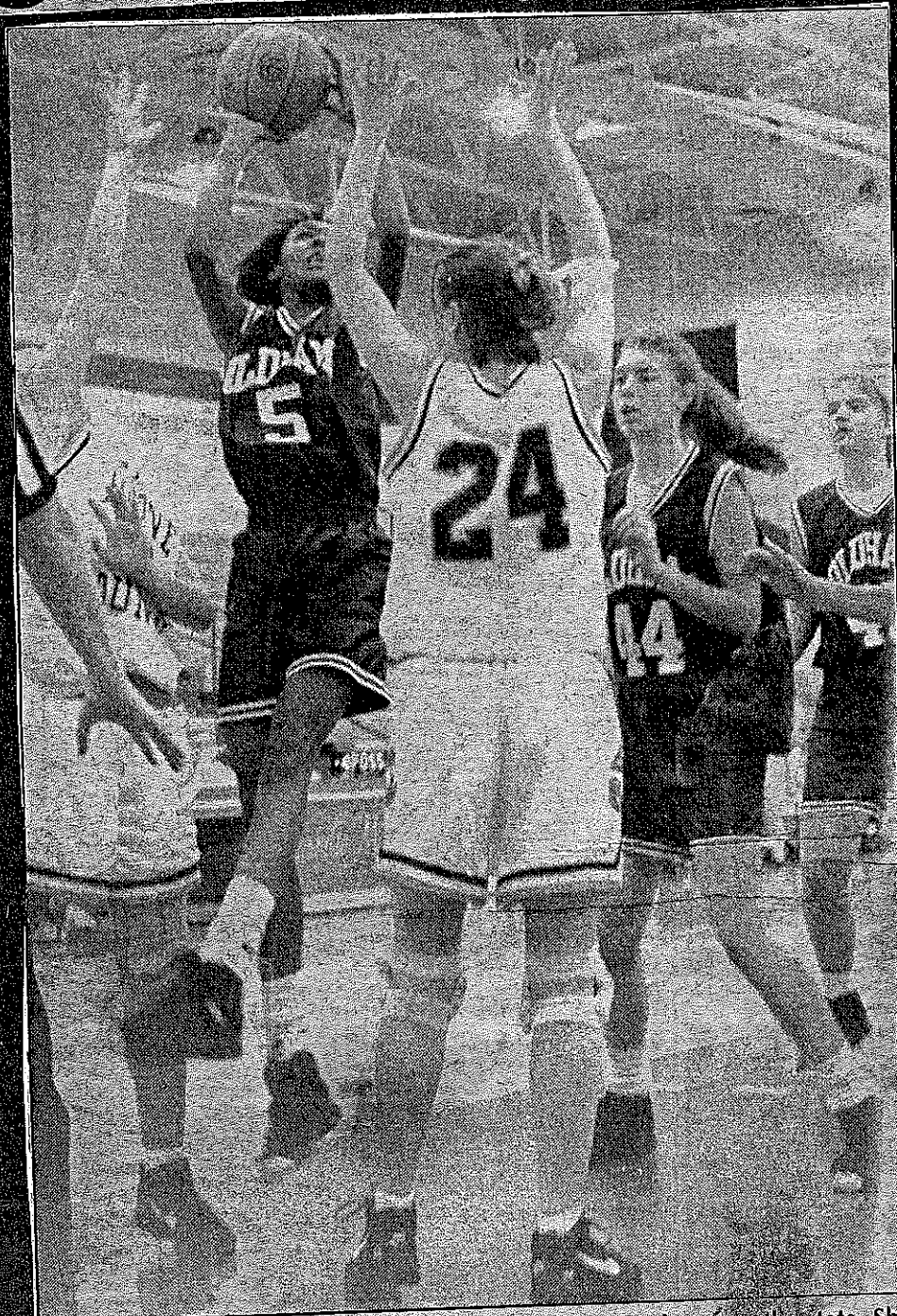
Leading the way will be 6-1 junior Jenny Lincoln, who averaged 16.2 points and 7.5 rebounds for a 30-4 team.

"Playing AAU ball and working

SPORTS PREVIEW, Thursday, November 24, 1994

# LADY COLONELS

## SHOOTING FOR STATE



Lady Colonels' sophomore Kyra Elzy is one of the top players in the state. She averaged 22 points last year to lead OCHS to the region title. (File photo)

SPORTS PREVIEW, Thursday, November 24, 1994

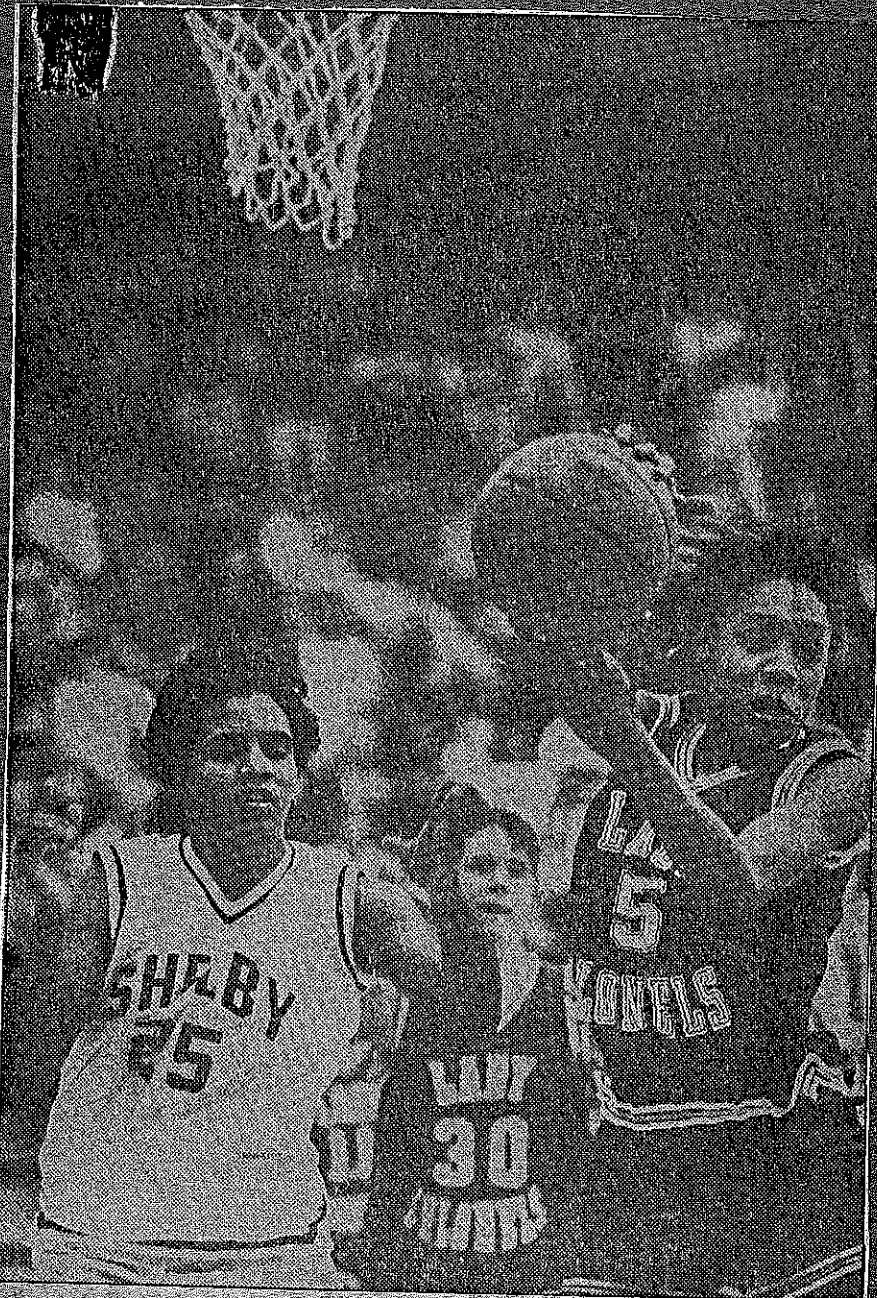


The 1993-94 Oldham County High School Lady Colonels. Defending 31st District and Eighth Region champions. Front row, from left, Laura Voegelé, Carrie Black, Anna Rutra, Kim Laub and Joni Boltorff. Second row, from left, Jody Hart, Rachel Horn, Elizabeth Robinson, Kyra Elzy and Michelle Hutchison. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)



## YOUNG, BUT YET RETIRED

Sheryl Elzy held fast to the framed jersey of Kyra Elzy, right, who was all smiles after her number was retired in ceremonies Friday at Oldham County High School. Kyra Elzy is the first Oldham County player to be on a national championship team, the University of Tennessee Lady Vols. She is the third Lady Colonel player to have her number retired. (Photo by Kit Millay)



STAFF PHOTO BY DURELL HALL JR.

**DEFUSING THE ROCKETS:** Oldham County's Kyra Elzy kept a rebound away from Shelby County's Konisha Thomas in last night's Eighth Region basketball semifinal. Oldham County won 60-53 and advanced to tonight's final against Bullitt East. Story, Page 3.



**SHELBYVILLE, Ky.** — Oldham County freshman Kyra Elzy had been in this situation a thousand times before. Score tied, time running out and her team one basket away from a trip to the Sweet Sixteen.

She would get the ball, turn and kiss a shot off the board and into the basket. Except that all of those times she had made the shot, she was in teammate Jody Hart's backyard, not a packed Shelby County High School gym.

The change of location didn't bother Elzy last night in the Eighth Region Tournament final. She hit a turnaround 8-footer with two seconds left to give Oldham County a 64-62 upset over Bullitt East, which is No. 11 in The Courier-Journal's Litchenhous Ratings.

The Lady Colonels (21-10) will play No. 19 Assumption (22-7) at 1 p.m. March 25 in the first round of the State Tournament in the Frankfort Civic Center.

"We've practiced that shot since sixth grade so we can go to State," Elzy said. "Once I got the ball, I felt like I was in the Hart's backyard."

The shot was the exclamation point to Elzy's amazing night. The 6-foot center had 38 points, 12 rebounds and two blocked shots. It was her second consecutive double-double in the tournament. She had 21 points and 19 rebounds in Monday's 60-53 victory over No. 12 Shelby County.

"I felt like the last couple of nights she really came out and wanted the ball," Oldham County coach

Mark Evans said.

So it was no surprise that the Lady Colonels would try to get it to her after Bullitt East's Monica Reed hit a 12-footer to tie the score at 62.

Evans called "four to score," which is supposed to isolate Elzy on one defender. The Lady Chargers fumed that plan by surrounding her with three defenders, but guard Dawn Bradshaw lobbed the ball to her anyway, and she banked it in.

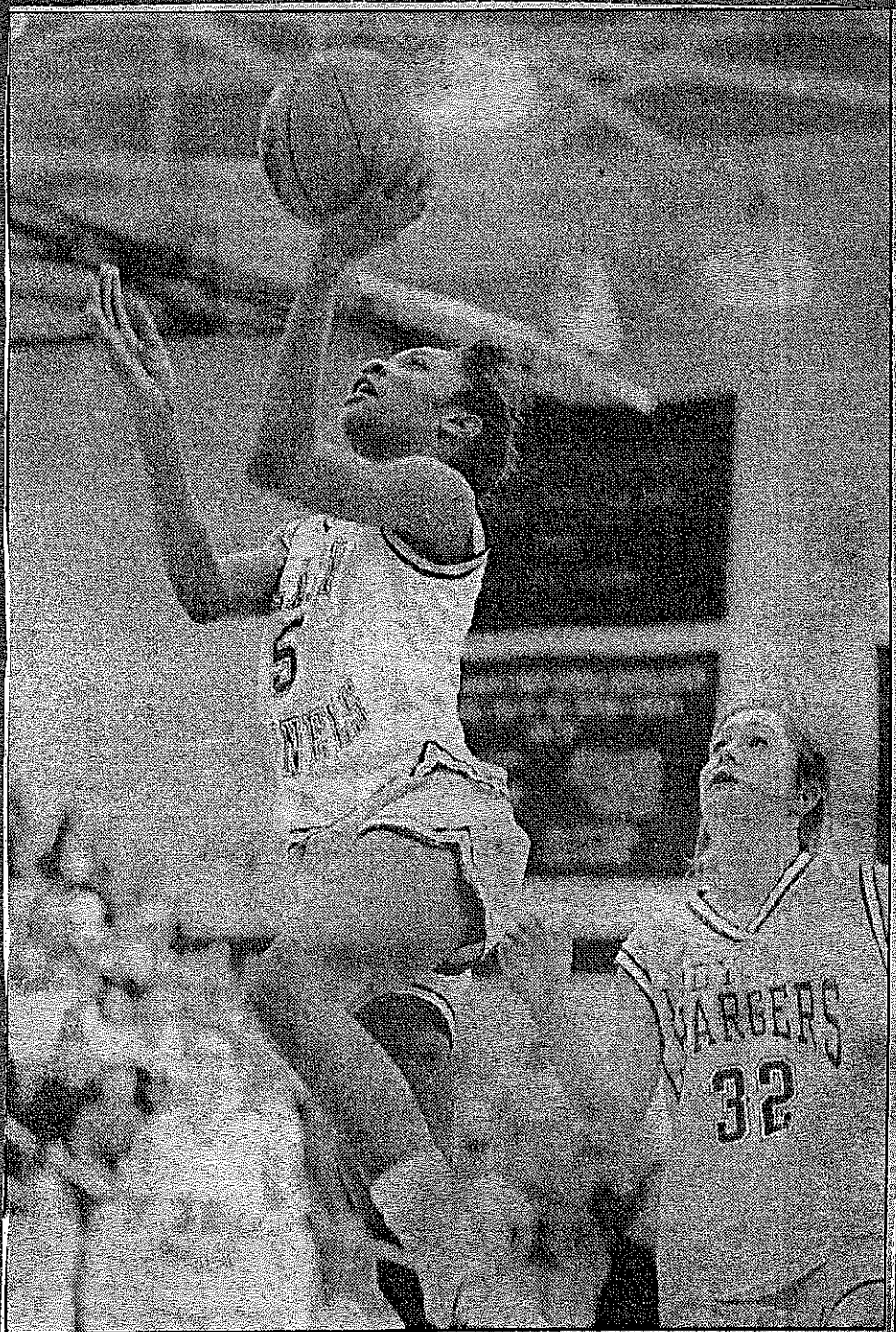
Bullitt East coach Jerry Troutman said his team couldn't have played better defense.

"She had to catch the ball in traffic, she had to come down in traffic and she had to shoot it in traffic," he said. "I guess it wasn't meant to be."

The Lady Chargers also had defended Elzy well early, holding her scoreless in the first quarter. But she more than made up for that in the second period, scoring 18 of her team's 22 points to help Oldham County to a 32-31 halftime lead. She scored most of her points freelaunching against a lone defender.

See **OLDHAM**

Page 2, col. 4, this section



State Journal/Dan Liebman

**KYRA ELZY, a freshman at Oldham County, goes to the hoop for two of her 38 points in the 8th Region final against Bullitt East. The Lady Colonels won the game for their 11th appearance in the State Tournament.**

# Elzy makes it look easy for Oldham County

By Mickey Patterson  
Era sports editor

BUCKNER — This time there would be no let-up.

Ahead of Carroll County 41-31 at the half, the Oldham County High Lady Colonels continued to pour it on with defensive pressure as they rolled to the 31st District championship with an 84-69 win Saturday.

The game avenged a regular season loss to Carroll that saw the Lady Colonels blow an 18-point lead in the second half.

"There was no way we were going to let that happen again," said senior guard Wendy Francis. "In the locker room at halftime, coach told us we gave up on ourselves in the second half of the first game and that the second half needed to be our best half. We really wanted this one bad."

While OCHS continued to dismantle the Lady Panthers in the second period, the major nuts and bolts work of the blowout came in the second quarter.

Leading 24-23 with 7:28 left in the period, the Lady Colonels started their run with a Dawn Bradshaw three-pointer off the right wing. Francis stole a pass at the other end and fed Kyra Elzy for a layup. Elzy drew a foul and her free throw put OCHS up 30-23.

The OCHS press then forced a Carroll turnover and Elzy posted up for a lay-in. A minute later, Stacy Holcomb stole the inbounds pass leading to an Elzy free throw and a 33-23 lead.

Jamie Brock hit a follow shot for Carroll and Nicole Weed a pair of free throws and a layup to cut the lead back to four.

Following a time out, the Lady Colonels regrouped and turned to their full court press to break Carroll's back. Cindy Hendron stripped Brock of the ball in the backcourt and hit a layup. Francis stole a Weed pass that led to a three-pointer off the left wing from Holcomb.

Elzy stole another pass and fed Jody Hart for a layup and the Lady

Colonels led 40-29.

"Our defense was the key in this one, not our offense," said OCHS head coach Mark Evans. "The pressure we put on them and the fact we were able to play so many kids really took their legs away from them by halftime."

With Elzy, who finished with 21 points and 15 rebounds, scoring 10 points in the third period and Bradshaw and Holcomb each burying three-pointers, the Lady Colonels increased their lead to an insurmountable 58-38 with 3:02 left in the third period.

"I thought Kyra had a tremendous last game, her first step was so explosive that she just blew by people," Evans said. "But all the kids played very well. We hit seven three-pointers with four different people hitting them. The girls did a great job of finding the open person on the break and out of the offense."

"Coming into this I was a little worried about our legs, especially after our first game with Trimble County was so tough. The kids must be in great shape because they had a step on Carroll County all night long and never slowed down any."

The win gave the Lady Colonels their fifth straight district championship and the first for Evans in his first season as head coach.

"This is special being the first one," Evans said. "There was a little bit of pressure. Ole Weedman, (former Lady Colonels coach Dave Weedman who won 14 district titles), made it tough on anybody to follow his record but give all the credit to the kids. They came out and played very well and really blew out a pretty solid basketball team. This is their championship. They earned it with a lot of hard work."

OCHS — 21 20 27 16 84 — Dawn Bradshaw 12; Jennifer Craigmyle 6; Kyra Elzy 21; Wendy Francis 8; Jody Hart 9; Stacy Holcomb 17; Angie Kamer 2; 84.

CARROLL CO. — 21 10 12 26 69 — Jamie Brock 17; Karen Lindsay 2; Amy Booth 14; Kelle Izor 8; Nicole Weed 20; Laura Tyska 3; Brooke Parkinson 3; Christi Toole 2; 69.

## **GIRLS' EIGHTH REGION**

# **Top-ranked Bullitt East falls to Oldham — again**

By JODY DEMING  
Staff Writer

The Oldham County High School girls' basketball team has Bullitt East's number when it comes to the Eighth Region tournament.

Bullitt East (29-5), No. 1 in The Courier-Journal's Litkenhous Ratings, had its season ended by Oldham County for the third straight year last night.

The seventh-ranked Lady Colohels, inspired by a huge performance from an injured Kyra Elzy, avenged two regular-season losses with a 62-50 victory in the regional semifinals before an estimated crowd of 2,800 at Oldham County.

"I don't know, but it happens every year," Oldham County's Anna Ruffa said. "I told myself we were going to do it again. I had no doubt in my mind. Now we have to win another one."

Elzy, who missed the final 2:51 of the first half after a collision at mid-court, recorded 26 points, 18 rebounds and nine steals. She injured her jaw and ribs but returned to play most of the second half.

"It felt like I ran into a brick wall," said Elzy, who collided with Bullitt East guard Kelly Kames. "I felt dizzy for a few minutes when I came back, but I wasn't going to stay out."

Elzy, who hit 9 of 19 shots and 8 of 8 free throws, scored 16 points

in the second half.

"Great players do what it takes, and that's what you saw here," said Oldham coach Mark Evans, whose team never trailed. "Now we have to get back to state."

Two-time defending regional champion Oldham County (22-7) will play No. 15 Scott County, a 58-39 winner last night over Shelby County, in tonight's title game at 7:30.

Scott County built a 19-point half-time lead, then hung on behind 21 points, 10 assists and seven steals from Ukari Figgs.

The Lady Cardinals (27-2), riding a 20-game winning streak, dropped an overtime decision to Oldham County in last year's regional final.

"We donated it to them last year, so we're going to come to get it," Scott County coach Wayne Atkins said. "We feel like Oldham winning is a break for us. We could have beaten them both, but Bullitt East can do some things to us."

**Oldham County-Bullitt East:**

See OLDHAM  
Page 2, col. 3, this section

**Oldham County's Kyra Elzy scored inside against Bullitt East. She was hurt in the second quarter but came back and finished with 26 points.**

PHOTO BY BUD KRAFT



# Lady Colonels rip Anderson County in sloppy opener

Kevin R. Hyde  
Staff writer

BUCKNER — Despite some sluggish play, the Oldham County High Lady Colonels thoroughly dominated Anderson County, 70-47, last Wednesday in the opening round of Eighth Region tournament play.

Led by 6-1 guard Kyra Elzy's 25 points, the Lady Colonels used strong surges at the end of the first half and at the beginning of the second, to put the game well out of reach.

The Lady Colonels were able to score a majority of their early points on fastbreak layups set up by steals off their full-court press.

"Our full-court defense was pretty good tonight," said Oldham County head coach Mark Evans. "But it can certainly be better. We really have to improve our half court defense.

"On the whole, we didn't play real well. We weren't real pleased."

Elzy agreed.

"I don't think the team was mentally prepared," she said. "We need to execute better in all aspects of the game as the tournament goes on."

In a sloppy first quarter, plagued by several turnovers by both teams, the Lady Colonels bolted out to a quick 6-0 lead on three consecutive layups, two by Elzy and one by forward Rachel Horn.

Oldham County had doubled the Lady Cats by the end of the first quarter 18-9.

But Anderson showed some fight at the beginning of the second quarter, cutting Oldham's lead to 21-15 by the five-minute mark.

That's when Elzy led the Lady Colonels on a furious, late first half run that gave Oldham a comfortable 35-17 halftime lead. Elzy scored 10 points in the spurt as the Lady Colonels outscored Anderson 15-2 in the final 3:19 of the half.

And they did not let up in the second half. The Lady Colonels scored the first 11 points of the third quarter and held a 54-28 lead by the end of the quarter.

Although Evans didn't like the way his team played in the blowout, he remains optimistic about the rest of the tournament.

"We're always optimistic," he said. "We have our work cut out for us the rest of the way. We're in possibly the strongest region in the state this year. There are three teams in our region that have a chance to win the whole thing."

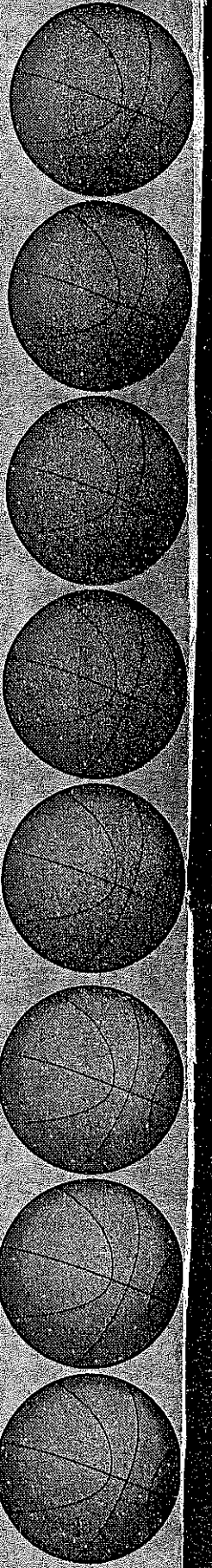
The game had a scary moment when, in the last 10 seconds of the game, Oldham county reserve Carrie Black suffered a neck injury while diving for a loose ball. She was taken to by La Grange Rescue to Tri-County Baptist Hospital for precautionary reasons.

"She took a knee or an elbow to the back of the neck," Evans said. "She was being taken to the hospital just to be safe. You can't take chances with kids."

Black was examined and released that night.

OCHS — 18 17 19 16 70 — Joni Bottorff 4; Kyra Elzy 25; Jody Hart 12; Elizabeth Robinson 2; Anna Rufra 5; Carrie Black 3; Rachel Horn 9; Kim Laub 2; Michelle Hutchison 1; Laura Voegele 9; 70.

ANDERSON CO. — 9 8 11 19 47 — April Burton 5; Jessica Morgan 12; Jessica Ruble 13; Jodi Neurohr 11; Kelly Bowman 6; 47.



# BASKETBALL 1993-1994



# Lady Colonels will run and gun

By Mickey Patterson  
Era sports editor

**BUCKNER** — If anybody thought the Oldham County Lady Colonels ran a lot last year — well, you ain't seen nothing yet.

Last year's free wheeling run and gun and full court pressing attack under first year coach Mark Evans saw OCHS compile a 25-11 record, win the district and regional titles and reach the final four of the state tournament.

There was no reloading in Buckner this year. The Lady Colonels may be a repeating rifle that takes a bigger bullet this year.

"I think we'll be real wide open this year, a lot more wide open in our style of ball," Evans said. "As far as running our offense we'll be more spread out where the kids will take the ball to the basket because they do that pretty well. Plus, we'll may be have more of an inside game this year."

Although the Lady Colonels must replace starting point guard, Cindy Hendron, along with Wendy Francis, Becky Robinson and Heather Williams, Evans has three starters returning and seven players who saw extensive action last season.

Led by 6-0 sophomore Kyra Elzy, the Lady Colonels are expected to challenge for their 11th regional title in the last 15

years with old nemesis Bullitt East and Scott County.

Elzy blossomed into one of the best players in the state in her freshman season as she averaged 18.1 points and 11.3 rebounds a game and was named to the Sweet 16 all-tourney team. Playing mostly inside last season, she will move out on the floor this year, even playing some point guard.

"Right now, with the type of offense we run, she will play several different positions because they are all very similar," Evans said. "One thing Kyra has really done over the summer is work on her outside shooting. I'm really proud of the work she put in there. If she can develop that outside shot she will be hard to stop."

Outside shooting will be no problem for the Lady Colonels with 5-8 senior guard Dawn Bradshaw around. She averaged 10 points a game last season and hit 41 percent from the three-point line.

"So far, I'm really pleased with Dawn and with all three of our seniors," Evans said. "I don't know if I've ever seen a better shooting guard as far as pure shooting goes in girls' basketball. She has really improved her ballhandling too and learned to ball fake and swing around a screen and shoot on the move."

"She shows a lot of leadership and the kids look to her and all our seniors."

The Lady Colonels' returning players also include 5-6 senior swingman Jennifer Craignyle who scored 5.7 points a game last year and led the team in free throw percentage at 85 percent. The third senior is 5-5 guard Cindy Nay who is one of the team's best defensive players.

Also back is 5-7 junior guard Stacy Holcomb, another three-point threat who averaged 7.4 points a game and 5-9 sophomore Jody Hart who started last year and averaged five points and 4.8 rebounds a game last season.

The improved inside game will come from the team's twin towers in 6-1 sophomores Elizabeth Robinson and Heather Daily, both of whom picked up plenty of varsity experience last season as freshmen. Added to this year's mix inside is 5-10 freshman Rachel Horn.

"Those three all have all kinds of talent," Evans said. "The post is probably the hardest spot to learn. They can work their tail off but in our offense, if the timing is not right they can't get the ball. We have been concentrating on that and on getting them the ball in the right spots because they will really be a help. Their play will be a big key for us."

Three young players who will also play for OCHS this year are sophomore Anna Ruffa, Tom Boucort and freshman guard Carrie Black. Ruffa will be a big plus at point guard while Elzy, Black, Holcomb and Bradshaw will all play in

the Lady Colonels fast break attack. Defensively, OCHS will continue to press opponents as soon as they step off the bus. With the team's depth, Evans said they will step things up a notch this year.

Benefiting their role as one of the state's elite programs, the Lady Colonels schedule this year reads like a who's who of Kentucky basketball. Along with region opponents Bullitt East, Shelby County, South Oldham and Bullitt Central, the team has games scheduled with Louisville powers Assumption and Butler and a contest with Meade County.

Tournament experience will be no problem this year as OCHS will play in the Male Holiday Classic, the Northern Kentucky Famous Recipe, the prestigious Lady of the South Invitational which draws teams from around the country. All this is topped off with an appearance in the Louisville Invitational Tournament.

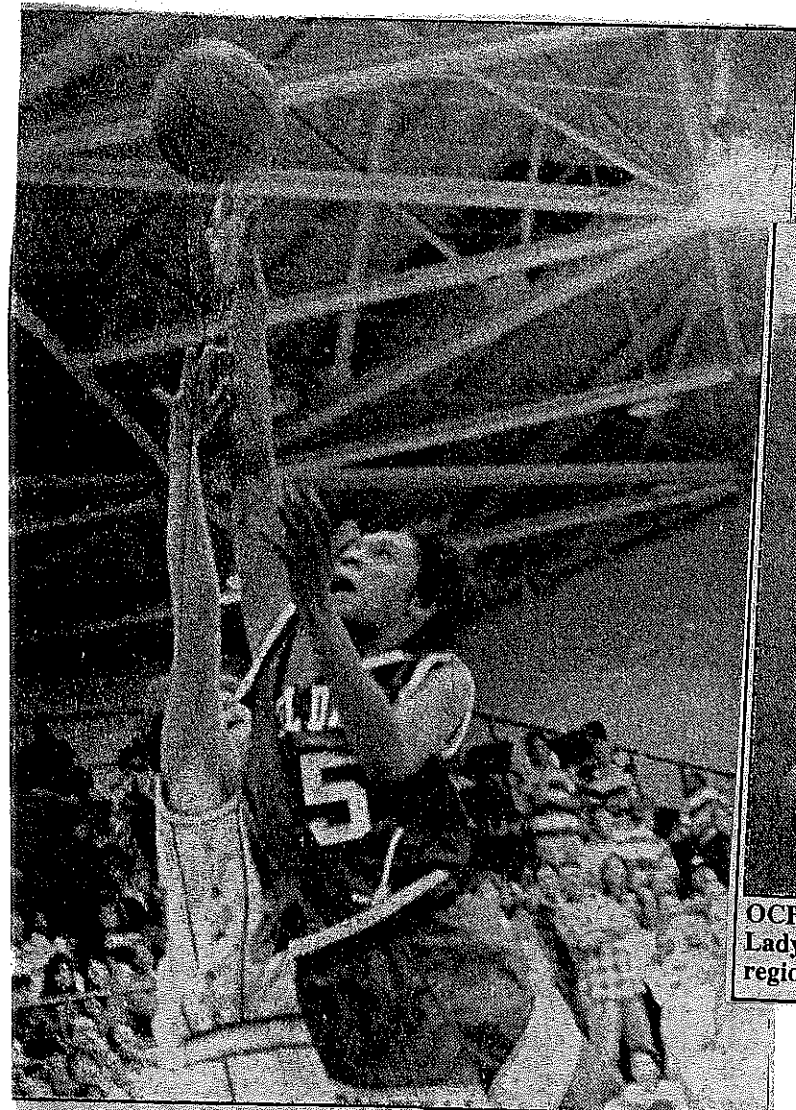
"This team, and this program, has a lot of potential and the only way to prepare to win the state is play in these tournament-type situations," Evans said. "That atmosphere and the competition build toward going to the state tournament and winning it."

The Lady Colonels open the season Saturday, Dec. 4 at Henry County against Owensboro Apollo at 6 p.m. The first home game is Dec. 9 against Gallatin County.

# SPORTS

## Lady Colonels upset

## number one East



OCHS' Kyra Elzy could still smile despite a painful jaw after the Lady Colonels upset number one ranked Bullitt-East Monday in the region semi-finals. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)

OCHS' Kyra Elzy goes up with a shot over Bullitt-East's Allison Bass. Elzy scored 26 points to lead the Lady Colonels to the upset in the region semi-finals. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)



By JODY DEMLING  
Staff Writer

Much has been said about the loads of talent in the Class of 1996 — but that's two years down the road.

The sophomore class might be super, but this year's senior crop isn't bad, and that's backed up by The Courier-Journal's All-State girls' basketball team. Eight of 10 first-team members are seniors, and 13 of 20 second- and third-team picks are members of the Class of 1994.

In a possible preview of Friday's Miss Basketball announcement, Nicholas County center Kim Denkins was clearly the top choice on the team.

Denkins, The Courier-Journal's preseason pick for Miss Basketball, received 128 votes (from the 149 coaches who voted) to 89 for Apollo's Laurie Townsend.

Clay County's Vonda Jackson fin-

ished third with 86, while M. C. Napier's Kristie Combs, the State Tournament MVP, finished fourth with 70.

"I think the senior class in the state of Kentucky is one of the best," said Manual coach Ken Smith. "If you're the all-star coach you're going to wind up cutting kids who could have made it in the past year. You have so many really talented kids."

One all-senior lineup could include Townsend and Combs at guard, Jackson and Manual's Latasha Peterson at forward and Denkins in the middle. Southern forward Sharonda Allen and guards Jaime Garner of Madison Central and Amy Maupin of Holy Cross would be first off the bench.

"They should be able to have a dominant team," Nicholas County coach Barbara Kenney said. "This senior class has a dominant big player, like last year's didn't have,

"(Miss Basketball) Brandi Ashby was more of a forward. But this year you've got Kim and Vonda Jackson. Then you have the real, real good small guards."

The touted Class of 1996 had two representatives on the first team: Jaime Walz of Highlands and Kyra Elzy of Oldham County. Walz had been a first-team pick as a freshman

and third-team choice as an eighth-grader. Elzy was an honorable-mention selection last year.

Louisville-area players garnered more all-state spots than in most previous years. There were seven Louisville players among the top three teams.

Peterson, Allen and Maupin were selected to the first team, while As-

sumption senior Amy Siegel and Male sophomore Jenny Lincoln were second-team picks. Holy Cross junior Danielle Atzinger and Male senior Stacy Shadburne were third-team choices.

Siegel, Central Hardin senior Julie Jeffries and Bullitt East sophomore Alison Bass tied for the top spot on the second team.

Four seniors made the second team: Ohio County's Misty Geary, Elizabethtown's Kamala Martin, Berea's Trina Goodrich and Henderson County's Nicole Hay.

Coaches were asked to vote for the 10 best players they had seen. They were not allowed to vote for their own players.

## ALL-STATE HONORABLE MENTION

### First Region

Valerie Shelton, Calloway County; Brigitte Howard, Marshall County; Misty Pierceall, Mayfield; Wendy Dunlow, Fulton County; Melissa Spears, Hickman County.

### Second Region

Abbey Benton, Caldwell County; Elizabeth Shublers and Abby Caffell, Webster County; Stacey Royal, West Hopkins.

### Third Region

Abby Morrison, Apollo; Christy Webster, Butler County.

### Fourth Region

Beth Cunningham, Greenwood; Amy Atcher, Franklin-Simpson; Sonya Thompson, Russellville; Sarah Higgins, Logan County.

### Fifth Region

Lilaha Critz and Amy Roy, Adair County; Farrah Sullivan, Taylor County; Paula Blanford, Marion County; Alliea Hamilton and Crystal Bartley, Washington County.

### Sixth Region

January Taylor and Christl Hester, Holy Cross; Tiffany Jenkins, Doss; Nika Mayes, Fairdale.

### Seventh Region

Kendria Braxton, Male; Kelly Brewer and Sharas Mansfield, Manual; Lauren Mackey, Sacred Heart; Amy O'Daniel, Ballard; Meri Lou Gonzalez, Assumption.

### Eighth Region

Nicole Weed, Carroll County; Dawn Bradshaw, Oldham County; Kelly Woods, Shelby County; Toni Cross,

### Ninth Region

Melanie Jaefriten, Boone County; Michelle Bell, Holy Cross; Katie Veith, St. Henry; Kristen Clark, Bishop; Broseart; Kelly Rueman, Villa Madonna.

### 10th Region

Jill Atkinson, Clark County; Michelle Hopkins, Nicholas County; Trish Swink, Mason County; Meredith Burbot, Montgomery County; Noella Whitaker, Harrison County.

### 11th Region

Marola Webb, Bryan Station; Rita Wilson, Lexington Catholic; Amy Redman, Woodford County.

### 12th Region

Astley Sanders, Boyle County; Christy McQueen, North Laurel; Jenny Tealer and Karen Flannery, Garman County; Rachel Piercy, Monticello; Shannon Riddie, Wayne County; Charlie Costello, Casey County; Jo Board, Lincoln County; Mollie Cooper, Pulaski County.

### 13th Region

Shea Lunsford, Jackson County; Jackie Pennington and Janet Jones, Knox Central; Shannon Browning, Ewart; Rhonda Garrett, Caswood.

### 14th Region

Renee Adams and April Napier, M.C. Napier; Jessalyn Yonta and Terrilla Bluff, Whitesburg; Leslie Bentley and Courtney Myers, Jenkins.

### 15th Region

Meredith Mullins, Sheldon Clark; Jamie Runyon, Betty Allison, Osborne; Russell; Marsha Brown, Allen Central; Brandi Baker, Shelby Valley; Dee Dee Martin, Belle Layne.

### 16th Region

Leigh Ann Kelly, Morgan County; Heather Estep, Ashland; Michelle Taber, West Carter; Ada Billman, Lewi-

# Elzy hits 2,000 career points in rout of Trimble

By Mickey Patterson  
Era sports editor

**BUCKNER** — Exploiting Trimble County's lack of size, the Oldham County High Lady Colonels went inside early and often Thursday to roll to a 75-35 win.

OCHS, 15-6, also saw junior forward Kyra Elzy score her 2,000th career point. She led OCHS with 24 points and 12 rebounds.

"Trimble doesn't have a lot of size so the kids did a really great job of going inside all night," said OCHS coach Mark Evans. "The kids realized we had a big size advantage and we kept going inside as long as we were scoring."

With Elzy, center Elizabeth Robinson and forward Jody Hart dominating the inside, the Lady Colonels bottled-out to a 41-14 halftime lead. Hart finished with 12 points and Robinson had eight. Reserve forward Laura Voegele also got into the act, scoring 14 points off the bench. Every player on the Lady Colonels' roster scored in the game.

Evans used his team in various zone defenses through much of the game to prepare them for the upcoming district tournament and liked what he saw.

"We played a very, very good defensive game," he said. "Their highest point output was 11 and I think that was the fourth quarter (actually the third) and we held them to single digits in both first half quarters so I was happy with that."

The Lady Colonels will host Fifth Region power Meade County today (Thursday) at 7:30 p.m.

OCHS — 17 24 21 13 75 — Jodi Bottorff 4; Kyra Elzy 24; Jody Hart 12; Elizabeth Robinson 8; Anna Rufa 6; Carrie Black 3; Rachel Horn 2; Kim Lamb 2; Laura Voegele 14; 75.

TRIMBLE CO. — 8 6 11 10 35 — Atkisson 3; Nutgrass 4; Tobe 10; Harmon 6; McKinley 8; Mitchell 4; 35.

### PRP game added

Evans has also announced a game has been added to the Lady Colonels' schedule. OCHS will host the PRP Lady Panthers this Saturday. The JV game will be at 6 p.m. and the varsity game at 7:30 p.m.



OCHS Junior Kyra Elzy went over 2,000 career points in leading the Lady Colonels to a 75-35 blowout of Trimble County Thursday. (File photo)

# Elzy gets No. 2,000, Oldham zips 75-35

Junior All-American Kyra Elzy scored 24 points last night to reach 2,000 for her career as the Oldham County High girls' basketball team, No. 9 in the Courier-Journal's Littenhouse Ratings, hammered Trimble County 75-35.

Elzy hit 12 of 19 shots and collected 16 rebounds. She reached the 2,000 mark on a putback with three

### HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

minutes left, her final points of the game, as the Lady Colonels improved to 15-6.

### Oldham County 84, PRP 62

Kyra Elzy had 31 points and 16 rebounds and Anna Rufa added 20 points as the Lady Colonels downed visiting Meade Ridge Park.

Elzy, a junior, has 1,001 career rebounds, making her the first girl in Oldham County history to register 2,000 points and 1,000 rebounds.

Oldham County (17-7), Panther No. 8, outscored the Lady Panthers 16-0 during the first four minutes of the game. Elizabeth Robinson led the early run, scoring 8 of her 10 points.

Vetta Robinson had 14 points and Whitney Simpson added 13 for PRP (14-6).

# Scott

Continued from page A1

and made a layup. Drawing a foul, her free throw cut the margin to two.

But Figgs took over from there. She fed 6-3 Camille Cooper with a pass for a layup to push the lead to 54-50. Cooper was fouled on the play and when she missed the free throw, Scott's rebounded the miss and fed the ball to White who drew a foul and hit one of her free throws to put the Lady Cardinals up 55-50.

Elzy cut the lead with a pair of free throws but Figgs found Copper again for another layup and on OCHS' next possession Anna Rufra let a pass from Joni Boutoff slip through her fingers for an over and back violation and Scott pushed the lead to 58-52 with 3:23 left on a free throw from Cooper.

From there Figgs took over feeding teammates as she single-handedly defied the OCHS press to either hit her free throws or feed teammates for shots that more often than not led to fouls on the Lady Colonels.

"We got ourselves back into the game with our best asset, our man-to-man press and our man-to-man defense but Ukari is so smart and so smooth, she makes it nearly impossible to come back on them."

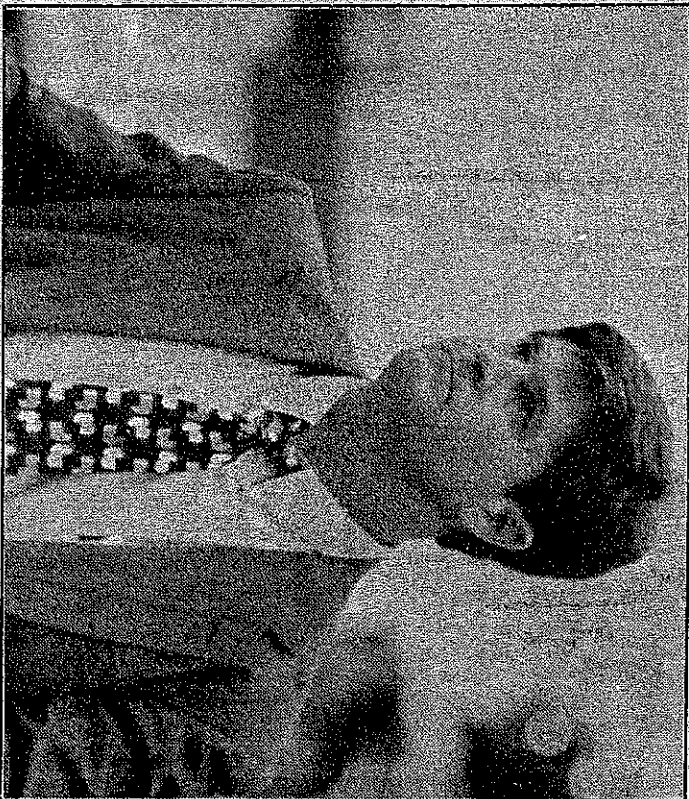
Evans said, "Tonight we just gave them too many second shots and we ran into a very good basketball team."

The regional title was Scott County's first in the history of the school. With the Scott County boys winning the regional title this year the school also becomes the first Eighth Region school to sweep the boys and girls titles since OCHS did it in the 1988 season.

"I think we might have learned a hard lesson tonight," Evans said. "Anytime you lose when you entered the season expecting to win the state title it's very hard. The positive thing is we have everyone of these kids back next year and I think this will make them want it even more."

"We played as hard as we could. This is hard for the kids and it's hard for the coaches. I'm very proud of these girls." They gave everything they had. I wish Scott County the best of luck. I hope they win it all. They have a class coach and a classy bunch of kids."

**SCOTT CO.** — 18, 19, 13, 20, 70 — Ukari Figgs 25, Rebecca White 20, Liz Towles 2, Gamille Cooper 8, Sara Wood 15, 70.  
**OCHS** — 8, 16, 14, 27, 65 — Kyra Elzy 31, Jody Hart 4, Elizabeth Robinson 4, Anna Rufra 7, Rachel Horn 13, Laura Voegelé 2, 65.



OCHS coach Mark Evans didn't like what he saw in the early stages of his team's 70-65 loss to Scott County in the regional finals Tuesday. The loss ended a two year streak of regional titles for the Lady Colonels. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)

## All-tourney team

Figgs headed up the all-tourney team and was joined by teammates White and Cooper.

OCHS was represented by Elzy, Rufra and Hart.

Kendi Taylor was selected from

South Oldham. Rounding out the team were Tabitha Gibson of Bullitt Central, Jodi Neuohr of Anderson County, Kellis Holden of Grant County, Kelly Jefferies and Neco Ashby of Shelby County and Allison Bass and Lee Remington of Bullitt East.

# Assumption edges Lady Colonels

By Mickey Patterson  
Era sports editor

LOUISVILLE — The quick hands of Assumption's Amy Siegel turned the momentum back her team's way as Assumption beat the Oldham County High Lady Colonels 60-53 Friday.

In the re-match between the two defending regional champs who met in the first round of the Sweet 16 last year, Siegel gained revenge for her team with a key steal that stopped a Lady Colonels' comeback dead in its tracks and allowed Assumption to win.

"That play changed everything," said OCHS coach Mark Evans. "She (Siegel) did what a senior is supposed to do. I had just told our girls in a time out they (Assumption) were the ones going crazy and that we had to go out and do all the little things right, like hit our free throws and take care of the ball, and we would win. That's a great scenario, but Siegel stepped up with a big time play and ruined it."

OCHS, which trailed the entire game, capped a hectic 11-2 scoring run by the Lady Colonels in the game's final 4:29 to tie. OCHS tied the game at 51 with 1:26 left on senior guard Dawn Bradshaw's three-pointer off the right wing.

Assumption went back up 53-51 with 1:05 left when Elaine Russell followed a Siegel miss in the lane. On the next trip down Siegel tipped the ball out of Anna Rufra's hands into the hands of OCHS' Jody Hart. Never breaking stride, Siegel stripped the ball from Hart and raced to the other end of the court for an easy layup that put Assumption up 55-51.

Fouled by OCHS' Kyra Elzy on the play, Siegel missed the free throw but Russell rebounded the miss. She missed a follow shot, but 6-3 Meri Lou Gonzalez put in Russell's miss and hit a free throw to put OCHS away for good as

Assumption led 58-51 with 39 seconds left.

"We had two big things hurt us tonight," Evans said. "We shot very poorly from the foul line and we didn't block out."

Gonzalez kept the Lady Colonels off balance all night as she blocked 11 shots to go with 12 rebounds and 12 points. Siegel finished with 12 points to go with seven steals and five blocked shots of her own. Lisa Lampkin led Assumption with 19 points.

The Lady Colonels were led by Elzy with 26 points and Bradshaw with 12. Despite the loss, Evans said the team is coming around.

"I told the kids I was super proud of them after the game," he said. "I told them I was so glad to see my old team back out on the floor scrambling after loose balls and playing so hard defensively. I also told them I hope this loss hurts because it shows how we can be beat when we don't do everything necessary to win."

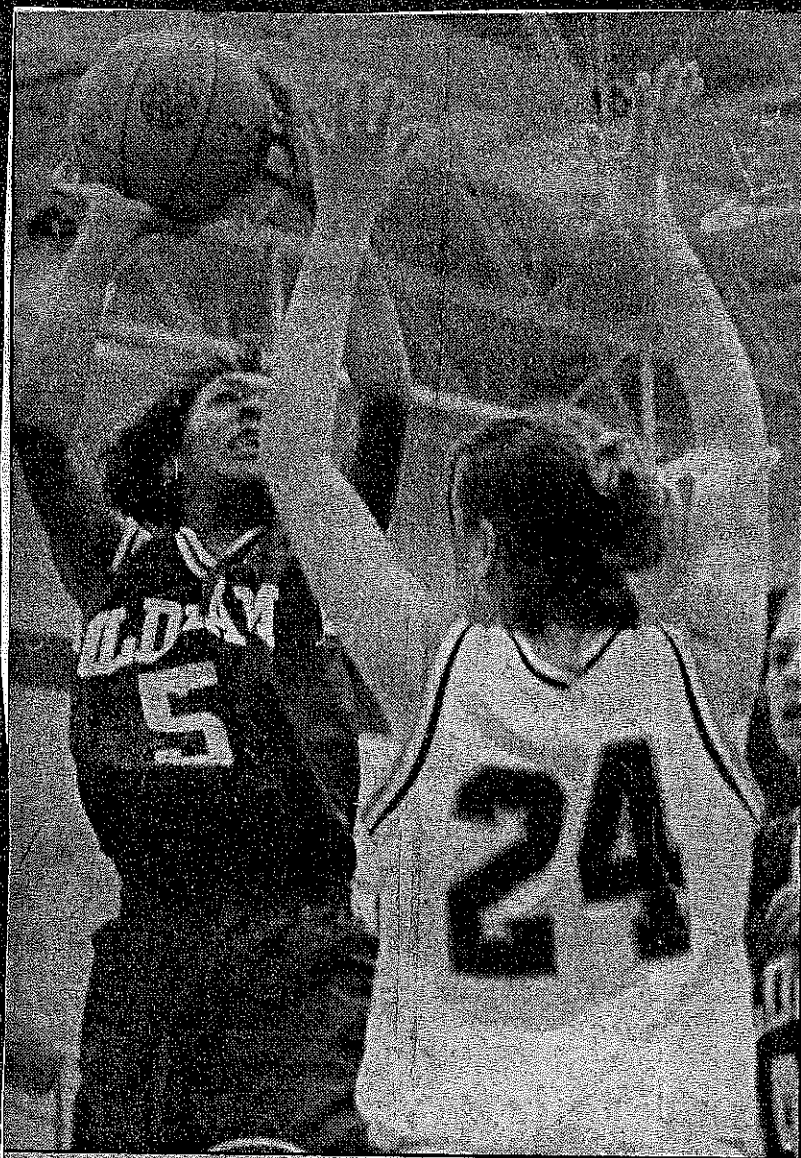
The Lady Colonels will go to the Famous Recipe Classic at Boone County this week. Wednesday they were scheduled to play Fifth Region power Meade County at 8:15 p.m. On Thursday (today) they were scheduled to face Bishop Brossart at 6:30 p.m. Both games are at Boone County High.

**ASSUMPTION — 17 9 15 19 60** — Amy Siegel 12; Lisa Lampkin 19; Elaine Russell 15; Meri Lou Gonzalez 12; Chrissy Preston 2; 60

**OCHS — 12 10 14 17 53** — Anna Rufra 3; Kyra Elzy 26; Elizabeth Robinson 4; Jennifer Craigmyle 2; Dawn Bradshaw 12; Jody Hart 2; Rachel Horn 4; 53

**OCHS — 10 14 14 15 53** — Anna Rufra 1; Kyra Elzy 21; Elizabeth Robinson 2; Dawn Bradshaw 13; Jennifer Craigmyle 6; Jody Hart 3; Heather Dally 0; Joni Bortoff 2; Rachel Horn 4; Carlie Black 1; 53

**TRIMBLE CO. — 13 8 8 6 35** — Adkisson 10; Nutgrass 4; Tobe 13; Harmon 7; Mitchell 1; 35



Lady Colonels' sophomore forward Kyra Elzy scored her 1,000th point against Carroll County Monday as the Lady Colonels set a school record with a 100-68 win. (Photo by Mickey Patterson)

#### GAME BREAKDOWN

##### FIRST HALF

The Lady Colonels struggled early against this district foe before coming together in the second period behind eight points from guard Dawn Bradshaw. She and Kyra Elzy each scored 10 points total to help OCHS to a 24-21 halftime lead. Laura Adkisson kept Trimble in the game with 10 points.

##### SECOND HALF

OCHS expanded its lead in the third period as Elzy scored 11 more points and

Trimble had trouble with the Lady Colonels' pressing defense. Center Lisa Tobe had a strong half for the Lady Raiders with nine points.

##### COACH'S COMMENTS

**EVANS OCHS** — "We had some things we wanted to work on going into this game and did that to some extent, but we didn't get a whole lot done in the first half. I thought Trimble played pretty well, give them credit. We came out in the second half and did a much better job and were able to build our lead."

# Elzy's double-double boosts Oldham County

By DOUG TATUM  
Staff Writer

While Shelby County's Kim Cunningham was seeing double, Oldham County's Kyra Elzy was posting a double-double as Oldham County beat the Lady Rockets 60-53 in the semifinals of the Eighth Region Girls' High School Basketball Tournament last night at Shelby County.

Elzy, a freshman center, scored 21 points and had 19 rebounds, including 10 offensive boards. She put in four of the rebounds for baskets.

"She gets up so quick," Shelby coach Jim Wright said. "Her offensive rebounding was a big factor."

Oldham County double teamed Cunningham for most of the game, but the Miss Basketball candidate still scored 26 points.

"We got a really fine game out of Kim," Wright said. "She tried to step up to do the things we needed to do to win."

Cunningham didn't get much support from her teammates as none scored more than five points. Elzy got more than enough support as junior guard Dawn Bradshaw poured in 22 points, including five three-pointers.

Oldham County coach Mark Evans didn't give his team much time to enjoy the victory.

"I told them the celebration was over after the game ended," the first-year coach said. "I said, 'Enjoy it for about five minutes and then go home and go to bed.'"

Oldham's players did just that and missed Bullitt East, ranked No. 10 in The Courier-Journal's Lickenhous Ratings, hold off Grant County 49-37 in the second game.

Bullitt East (27-4) and Oldham (20-10) will play at 7 tonight at Shelby County. The winner will advance to Frankfort next week for the Sweet Sixteen.

It will be a rematch of a game that Bullitt East won 75-61 three weeks ago.

Evans said Elzy's inside play set up Bradshaw's outside shooting.

OLDHAM COUNTY ..... 16 7 18 19 —60  
SHELBY COUNTY ..... 6 18 13 16 —53  
Oldham County (20-10) — Bradshaw 22, Craig-  
myle 5, Elzy 21, Hart 5, Hendron 1, Holcomb 6  
Shelby County (19-8) — Woods 5, Moffitt 5, Kon-  
Thomas 4, Etheredge 2, Cunningham 26, Ashby 3,  
Kol, Thomas 4, Shelburne 4.  
3-point goals — Bradshaw 5, Woods 1, Moffitt 1.

BULLITT EAST ..... 14 13 13 8 —49  
GRANT COUNTY ..... 4 8 13 12 —37  
Bullitt East (27-4) — Hardman 5, Newkirk 2,  
Simms 2, Franklin 4, Mason 6, Reed 12, Bass 16.  
Grant County (12-13) — Collett 10, Napier 4,  
Bowen 17, Rose 4, Holden 2.  
3-point goals — Hardman 1, Bowen 3.

"If you've been making them inside, they start collapsing like they did and there has to be somebody open outside," he said.

That somebody was Bradshaw, who hit two of her three-pointers in the fourth quarter as Oldham County pulled away. She hit one at the start of the quarter to push Oldham's lead from four to seven points. Bradshaw hit her second after Shelby County (19-8) had pulled within three with 4:45 to play.

Part of Shelby County's problem on offense was poor shooting from three-point range. The normally accurate Lady Rockets only hit 2 of 16 three-pointers.

"We ran out on them," Evans said. "There was never a time when they were getting an open shot."

Oldham County has won five straight since losing to Bullitt East. Evans said the turning point in the season was a double-overtime victory over Sixth Region champ Butler on Feb. 27.

"We showed that we could beat a good ballteam," Evans said.

## **Bullitt East-Grant County:**

The Lady Chargers definitely fit that description as they had no problem with Grant County (12-13).

Bullitt East took a 14-4 lead after the first quarter and looked like it was going to turn the game into a blowout.

But Grant County didn't fold and outscored Bullitt East 25-22 in the second half to make the game close.

Bullitt East was led by Alison Bass' 16 points. Bradie Bowen's 17 points led Grant County.

# Defense leads Lady Colonels to championship

By Mickey Patterson  
Era sports editor

BUCKNER — This time there would be no let-up.

Ahead of Carroll County 41-31 at the half, the Oldham County High Lady Colonels continued to pour it on with defensive pressure as they rolled to the 31st District championship with an 84-69 win Saturday.

The game avenged a regular season loss to Carroll that saw the Lady Colonels blow an 18 point lead in the second half.

"There was no way we were going to let that happen again," said senior guard Wendy Francis. "In the locker room at halftime, coach told us we gave up on ourselves in the second half of the first game and that the second half needed to be our best half. We really wanted this one bad."

While OCHS continued to dismantle the Lady Panthers in the second period, the major nuts and bolts work of the blowout came in the second quarter.

Leading 24-23 with 7:28 left in the period, the Lady Colonels started their run with a Dawn Bradshaw three-pointer off the right wing. Francis stole a pass at the other end and fed Kyra Elzy for a layup. Elzy drew a foul and her free throw put OCHS up 30-23.

The OCHS press then forced a Carroll turnover and Elzy posted up for a lay-in. A minute later, Stacy Holcomb stole the inbounds pass leading to an Elzy free throw and a 33-23 lead.

Jamie Brock hit a follow shot for Carroll and Nicole Weed a pair of free throws and a layup to cut the lead back to four.

Following a time out, the Lady Colonels regrouped and turned to their full court press to break Carroll's back. Cindy Hendron stripped Brock of the ball in the backcourt and hit a layup. Francis stole a Weed pass that led to a three-pointer off the left wing from Holcomb.

Elzy stole another pass and fed Jody Hart for a layup and the Lady

Colonels led 40-29.

"Our defense was the key in this one, not our offense," said OCHS head coach Mark Evans. "The pressure we put on them and the fact we were able to play so many kids really took their legs away from them by halftime."

With Elzy, who finished with 21 points and 15 rebounds, scoring 10 points in the third period and Bradshaw and Holcomb each burying three-pointers, the Lady Colonels increased their lead to an insurmountable 58-38 with 3:02 left in the third period.

"I thought Kyra had a tremendous last game, her first step was so explosive that she just blew by people," Evans said. "But all the kids played very well. We hit seven three-pointers with four different people hitting them. The girls did a great job of finding the open person on the break and out of the offense."

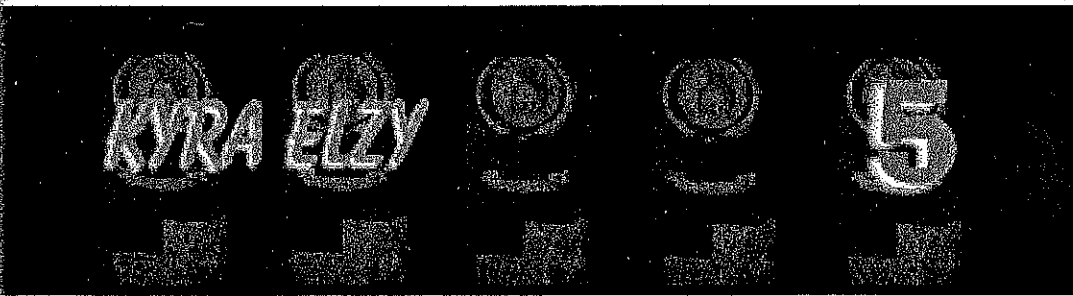
"Coming into this I was a little worried about our legs, especially after our first game with Trimble County was so tough. The kids must be in great shape because they had a step on Carroll County all night long and never slowed down any."

The win gave the Lady Colonels their fifth straight district championship and the first for Evans in his first season as head coach.

"This is special being the first one," Evans said. "There was a little bit of pressure, Ole Weedman, (former Lady Colonels coach Dave Weedman, who won 14 district titles), made it tough on anybody to follow his record but give all the credit to the kids. They came out and played very well and really blew out a pretty solid basketball team. This is their championship. They earned it with a lot of hard work."

OCHS — 21 20 27 16 84 — Dawn Bradshaw 12; Jennifer Craigmyle 6; Kyra Elzy 21; Wendy Francis 8; Jody Hart 9; Stacy Holcomb 17; Angie Kamer 2; 84

CARROLL CO. — 21 10 12 26 69 — Jamie Brock 17; Karen Lindsay 2; Amy Booth 14; Kellie Izor 8; Nicole Weed 20; Laura Tyska 3; Brooke Perkinson 3; Christi Toole 2; 69

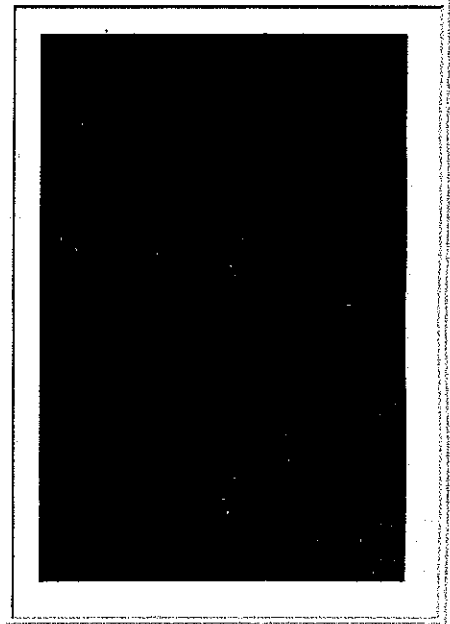


**guard / forward**  
**sophomore \* 6'1**  
**LaGrange, Kentucky (Oldham County)**

**TENNESSEE**

**1997-98:** Kyra returns for her sophomore campaign after a great summer of basketball experience with the U.S.A. Junior National Team, where she teamed with fellow Lady Vols Tamika Catchings, Kristen Clement and Semeka Randall...In the coming season, she will be counted on for her backcourt leadership, defensive savvy and deceptive rebounding...Considered Tennessee's defensive stopper after recording 70 steals as a rookie...

**1996-97:** As the lone guard in the freshman class, Kyra immediately helped to fill a void in the backcourt due to the graduation of Latina Davis and Michelle Marciniak...She became just the fifth freshman (ever) to start her first collegiate game for the Lady Vols...She played in all 39 games and registered 17 starts...While logging 22 minutes per contest, she averaged 5.8 ppg, 3.5 rpg, 1.8 apg and 1.4 spg...Turned in a gutsy performance in the NCAA Championship game with her incredible defensive display against the Old Dominion backcourt...Helped to force ODU All-America point guard Ticha Penicheiro into 11 turnovers...Set four of her five career highs against Notre Dame...Against the Fighting Irish in the NCAA Final Four, she knocked in 14 points, grabbed nine rebounds and snagged five steals...Her fourth career high against NDU was a three-block effort in the NWIT...Also registered a career-high seven steals against Memphis...Tossed in double-figure points in eight games...Turned in her best all-around game against LSU in the SEC Tournament, tossing in 14 points, grabbing nine rebounds, handing out three assists and blocking two shots in 36 minutes...Was slowed by an old, healing stress fracture in December...Rest and rehab was the ticket as her game rounded back into form by mid-season...Her teammates awarded her the "Holly Warlick Best Defensive Player Award" at the team's annual banquet.





1996-97 39 77 212 .363 3 10 .300 70 123 .569 136-3.5 66-1 227-5.8 70 100 18 55 856

## **Kuttin' Up with Kyra**

What would you be doing if you weren't playing collegiate basketball? | [MPG clip \(314k\)](#) |  
I would be attending one of my state schools - the University of Kentucky or Western Kentucky - as a regular old student.

Who is the best player you have ever faced - anytime, anywhere - and why?  
Kim Williams (DePaul) was the best by far. She was so athletic and so unpredictable, which made her very hard to guard.

If you could pick a dream team to play on, who would be your teammates?  
Chamique Holdsclaw, Nikki McCray, Katrina McClain and Dawn Staley.

Which is your favorite WNBA/ABL team, and who is your favorite player?  
The WNBA is an exciting league, but my favorite female pro player is Nikki McCray, who just jumped from the ABL to the WNBA.

What do you do on your days away from basketball? I like to hang out with my friends. When I'm not doing that, I like to shop (way too much) or take a ride in my car (Goldie) and listen to all of my favorite songs playing.

Why did you pick your jersey number?  
In the sixth grade my middle school coach gave me the number, because it was a small number for a small girl.

What makes the University of Tennessee stand out above other schools?  
When you choose Tennessee, you know that you'll get your diploma and you'll have the chance to play for a national championship.

How do you see yourself as a role model? What are your responsibilities as a visible athlete?  
I consider myself a role model, and, as a result, I carry myself with manners and confidence.

What is your favorite memory about winning an NCAA Championship?  
My favorite moment in Cincinnati was after the buzzer sounded. I looked at the sea of orange in the stands and heard "Rocky Top" play - it gave me the chills.

What is your favorite quote or saying?  
Never tonight.

What motivates you? | [MPG clip \(104k\)](#) |  
When I get beat - or when someone tells me that I can't do something.

What is your biggest fear? | [MPG clip \(168k\)](#) |  
To die in a car wreck.

What's your funniest story on a teammate?

## Multi-Media Files

See and hear  
Ace answer  
questions at the  
bottom of the page

### Video-Clips

How to...

1996-97 season

1996-97 season

1996-97 season

1996-97 season

vs US Armed Forces

### Pictures

## HIGH SCHOOL:

Kyra had a standout career as a member of the basketball, cross country and track and field teams at Oldham County...Led her basketball team to district championships in all four seasons and to regional titles in her first two years...Also guided the squad to a semifinal appearance in the state championships as a junior...Oldham sported an overall record of 103-28 during her tenure...Received a plethora of honors in her senior year, including second-team All-America status from Parade magazine...Was also an all-district selection for four straight seasons and was named Region Player of the Year in her final three years...Tabbed as one of the top players in the nation by USA Today...Named to all-state first team by many different local publications and was a second-team All-America selection by Street and Smith's...Chosen to several all-tournament teams, including several while playing AAU ball...Selected to the 1996 Nike/WBCA Girls' High School All-America Team...Averaged 23 points and 13 rebounds per game in her career and finished as the school's all-time leading scorer

(3,015 points) and rebounder (1,734 rebounds)...Registered career highs in both points (39) and assists (12) in the same contest as a senior...Also owns a single-game rebounding record of 33 boards.

## INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL:

In the summer of 1997, Kyra joined Lady Vol freshmen-to-be Tamika Catchings, Kristen Clement and Semeka Randall on the U.S.A. Junior National Team which competed in Colorado Springs, Orlando and Natal, Brazil...The team won the gold medal and was named the 1997 USA Basketball Team of the Year...In Brazil, the USA team compiled a 6-1 record en route to the best finish ever in the FIBA Junior World Championships...A defensive leader on the team, Kyra started four of the seven games and registered 6.7 ppg, 3.9 rpg and 2.7 spg...She was the most accurate shooter on Team USA, connecting on .636 of her field goal tries.

## PERSONAL:

Kyra is majoring in sports psychology at Tennessee...Enjoys reading, running and spending time with her friends...Received the Business First award and was named Rotary Student of the Month as a senior...Member of Sigma Sigma Gamma and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes...Models herself after former Lady Vol star and 1996 Olympic gold medalist Nikki McCray...Biggest superstition is wearing the same pair of socks until her team loses...Chose UT over Georgia, Kentucky and Western Kentucky...Four of her former teammates are playing collegiately, including Ohio State's Marrita Porter...Kyra Shanae Elzy was born Aug. 17, 1978, in Louisville, Ky...Her mother is Sheryl Elzy.

### Career Highs

Points: 14 vs. Notre Dame (3-28-97)  
Rebounds: 9 vs. Notre Dame (3-28-97)  
Assists: 7 vs. Memphis (12-3-96)  
Steals: 5 vs. Notre Dame (3-28-97)  
Blocks: 3 vs. Notre Dame (11-19-96)

### 1996-97 Season Highs

Points: 14 vs. Notre Dame (3-28-97)  
Rebounds: 9 vs. Notre Dame (3-28-97)  
Assists: 7 vs. Memphis (12-3-96)  
Steals: 5 vs. Notre Dame (3-28-97)  
Blocks: 3 vs. Notre Dame (11-19-96)

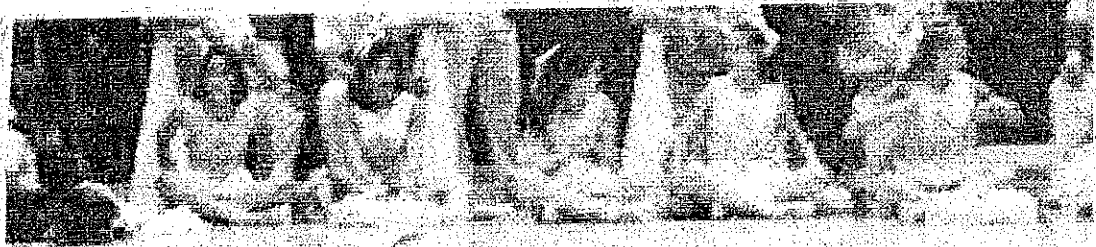
## ELZY'S 1996-97 GAME BY GAME STATISTICS

| Opponent             | Pts | Rebs | Asts | Blks | Stls |
|----------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| *Austin Peay         | 6   | 3    | 3    | 1    | 1    |
| *Kansas              | 13  | 7    | 5    | 0    | 1    |
| *Notre Dame          | 6   | 5    | 2    | 3    | 4    |
| *Louisiana Tech      | 6   | 3    | 2    | 1    | 2    |
| Marquette            | 1   | 1    | 1    | 1    | 0    |
| Vermont              | 7   | 4    | 2    | 0    | 0    |
| *Wisconsin-Green Bay | 4   | 2    | 3    | 1    | 3    |
| *Memphis             | 12  | 3    | 7    | 0    | 0    |
| *Georgia             | 5   | 3    | 2    | 1    | 2    |
| *Stanford            | 3   | 1    | 1    | 0    | 1    |
| Texas Tech           | 12  | 5    | 5    | 1    | 3    |
| Texas                | 5   | 4    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Arkansas             | 4   | 3    | 2    | 1    | 0    |
| St. Joseph's         | 4   | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Connecticut          | 0   | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Old Dominion         | 1   | 1    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Kentucky             | 2   | 3    | 0    | 0    | 3    |
| Purdue               | 4   | 4    | 0    | 1    | 0    |
| Vanderbilt           | 6   | 4    | 1    | 1    | 2    |
| Florida              | 2   | 2    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Alabama              | 0   | 5    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| DePaul               | 4   | 5    | 4    | 1    | 2    |
| Mississippi          | 0   | 0    | 0    | 1    | 0    |
| Wisconsin            | 6   | 2    | 0    | 0    | 1    |
| Mississippi State    | 14  | 7    | 3    | 0    | 4    |
| South Carolina       | 7   | 2    | 2    | 0    | 3    |
| Auburn               | 6   | 2    | 0    | 0    | 2    |
| Vanderbilt           | 6   | 4    | 1    | 0    | 2    |
| LSU                  | 3   | 3    | 0    | 0    | 1    |
| Louisiana Tech       | 3   | 4    | 2    | 0    | 0    |
| *South Carolina      | 11  | 5    | 4    | 1    | 3    |
| *LSU                 | 14  | 9    | 3    | 2    | 1    |
| *Auburn              | 7   | 4    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| *Grambling State     | 14  | 4    | 3    | 0    | 3    |
| *Oregon              | 0   | 4    | 2    | 0    | 1    |
| *Colorado            | 5   | 2    | 3    | 1    | 3    |
| *Connecticut         | 8   | 4    | 1    | 0    | 1    |
| *Notre Dame          | 14  | 9    | 1    | 0    | 5    |
| *Old Dominion        | 2   | 3    | 1    | 0    | 1    |

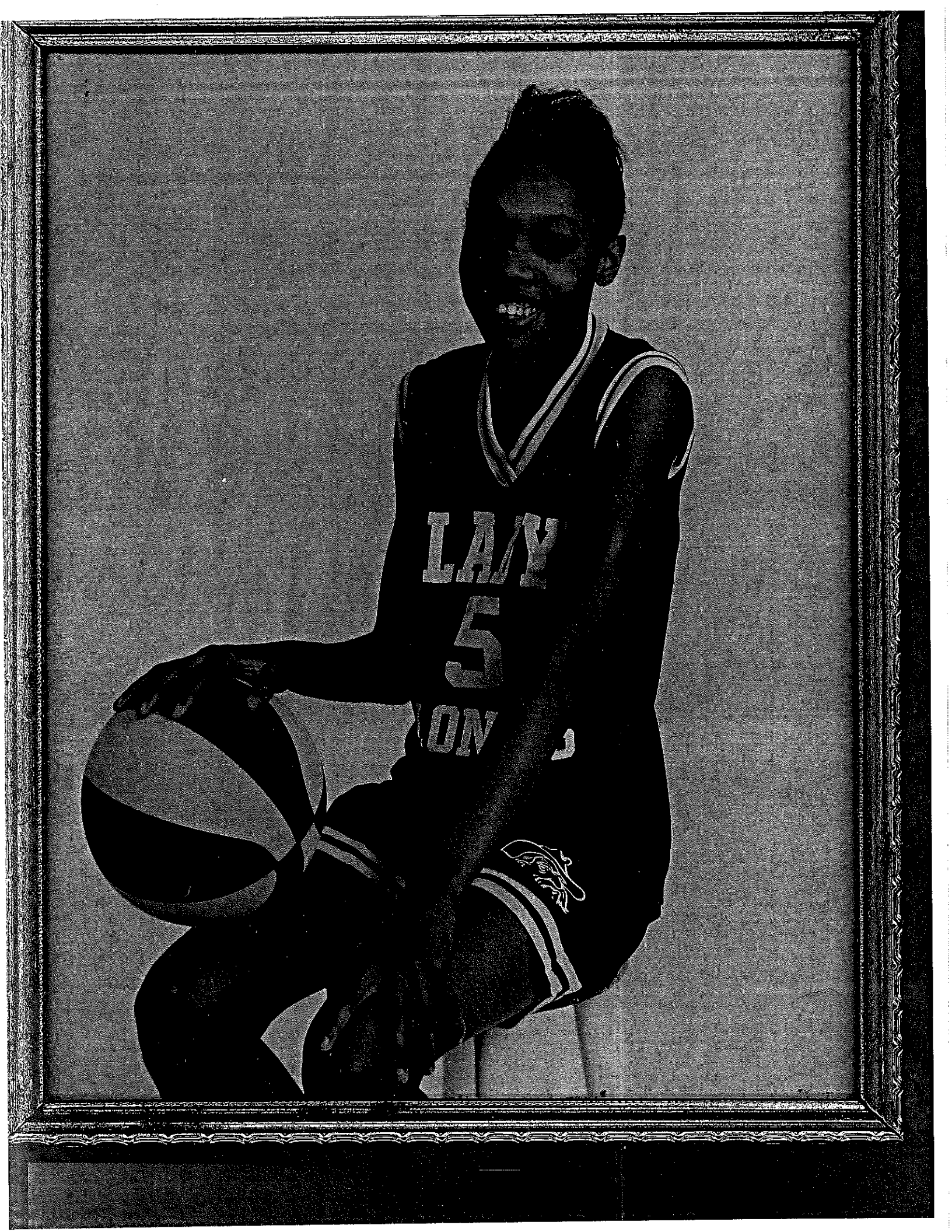
\* -- Started game

### CAREER TOTALS FOR ELZY

YEAR G FGM FGA PCT. 3PM 3PA PCT. FTM FTA PCT. REB-AVG. PF-DQ TP-AVG. AS TO BK S



Went and returned to St. James



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5

ION

*AAU Girls National Team Championships  
19 Cleveland, Ohio 94*



# Oldham County's fast start too much for Woodford County

By JODY DEMLING  
Special Writer

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Oldham County jumped out to a comfortable lead, thwarted a Woodford County rally and drew off to a 60-46 victory last night in the quarter-final round of the girls' high school State Tournament at the Civic Center.

It took Oldham County (23-10) a full quarter to get rolling in their first-round victory over Assumption, but last night the Lady Colonels were hot from the start. They led 9-0 and 14-2 before Woodford County (26-6) knew what hit them.

Senior point guard Cindy Hendron led the way with a three-pointer to open the game and two jumpers later in the run. Oldham County hit 7 of 15 shots in the quarter to Woodford County's 4 of 15.

"The run at the beginning of the game really hurt us," Woodford County assistant coach Jay Lucas said.

Oldham County held a 29-15 halftime lead, but behind seniors Shana Raglin and Tammy Washer, the Lady Yellowjackets made their run. Washer and Raglin scored three buckets apiece as Woodford pulled within 37-32 after three quarters.

Then it was Kyra-time as Oldham County freshman center Kyra Elzy took over in the fourth quarter. Elzy hit a driving layup, fed Stacey Holcomb for a bucket, scored four straight baskets and dished off to Dawn Bradshaw for another layup.

Elzy scored 11 of her 19 points in the fourth quarter. She finished with 15 rebounds and was 8 of 12 from the field.

"Woodford County went man-to-man on us, and it was affecting our offensive sets," Oldham coach Mark Evans said. "We made a simple adjustment: We moved Kyra to the top of the key."

"I was just trying to take the ball at No. 12 (Shana Raglin)," Elzy said. "Their

**GIRLS' SWEET 16**

**Yesterday's results**  
Nicholas County 52, Galloway County 43  
Clay County 47, Central Hardin 46  
Oldham County 60, Woodford County 46  
Warren County 59, Russell County 47

**Today's games**  
Nicholas County (35-2) vs. Clay County (33-3), 10 a.m.  
Oldham County (23-10) vs. Warren East (29-5), 11:30 a.m.  
Championship, 8 p.m.

More coverage, Page 5

three-two (zone) was smooshing us, and I wasn't getting my drive or my steps down. I just wanted to play offense better than I did in the first half."

"She's really tall and has long legs, so on her first step she was getting past me," said Raglin who finished with 16 points, which gave her 1,000 for her career.

Oldham County iced the victory by sinking 6 of 9 free throws in the final 0:51.

"The last two or three weeks the girls have stepped up and hit the free throws when they counted," Evans said.

Free throws were one of the differences in the game and had the Woodford coaching staff upset. Oldham made 15 of 29 to just 3 of 8 for the Lady Yellowjackets. The fouls were 27-12 in favor of Oldham.

"The free throws were the difference in the game," Lucas said. "The only comment we have on the foul situation is that we didn't get in the bonus during the second half and that they shot 29 free throws to our eight."

Bradshaw scored 15 points and Hendron 14 for the Lady Colonels, who advance to the semifinals today at 11:30 a.m. against Warren East.